



*The Pelican Island Audubon Society*

# *Peligram*

*- founded in 1964 to serve Indian River County -*

P.O. Box 1833, VERO BEACH, FL 32961 772-567-3520 Fax 772-567-3521 [www.pelicanislandaudubon.org](http://www.pelicanislandaudubon.org)  
Our 42nd Year Vol. 42 No. 7 October 2006

**Our Mission:** To preserve and protect the animals, plants, and natural communities in Indian River County through advocacy, education, and public awareness.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

More information on all these events may be found at [www.pelicanislandaudubon.org](http://www.pelicanislandaudubon.org)

**Sun Oct 8 – 8:00am–12:00pm** ORCA canoe trip. Meet at the FMEL boathouse 200 9<sup>th</sup> St. S.E. (Oslo Road) east of U.S. 1. Reservations are required. Call 567-3520 to sign-up.

**Mon Oct 16 – 7:30pm** General Meeting at the Vero Beach Community Center, 2266 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. Topic: *Castaways, Stowaways & Illegal Immigrants* with Dr. Jon Moore.

**Sat Oct 21 – 8:00am** Field Trip: guided tour of Oslo Riverfront Conservation Area, 150 9<sup>th</sup> St. S.E. (Oslo Road)

**Oct 19 - 21** Audubon Assembly, Holiday Inn Cocoa Beach Oceanfront Resort, see page 2 for details.

**Sun Nov 5 – 8:00am–12:00pm** ORCA canoe trip. Meet at the FMEL boathouse 200 9<sup>th</sup> St. S.E. (Oslo Road) east of U.S. 1. Reservations are required. Call 567-3520 to sign-up.

**Mon Nov 20 – 7:30pm** General Meeting at the Vero Beach Community Center, 2266 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. Topic: Scrub Jays with Ernest Cowan and Hank Smith.

**Sun Dec 3– 8:00am–12:00pm** ORCA canoe trip. Meet at the FMEL boathouse 200 9<sup>th</sup> St. S.E. (Oslo Road) east of U.S. 1. Reservations are required. Call 567-3520 to sign-up.

**Mon Dec 11 – 6:00pm** Vegetarian Potluck & Holiday Bazaar at the Vero Beach Community Center, 2266 14<sup>th</sup> Ave.

### ***Buy a copy today!***

You can now purchase your copy of *Reflections of Blue Cypress* on our website using Visa or Mastercard! Visit us at [pelicanislandaudubon.org](http://pelicanislandaudubon.org) to see how!!

## **CASTAWAYS, STOWAWAYS & ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS OCTOBER 16 MEETING**

Dr. Jon Moore, Associate Professor of Biology at Florida Atlantic University's Wilkes Honors College in Jupiter, will be the speaker at the October 16<sup>th</sup> general meeting at the Vero Beach Community Center, 2266 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue, starting at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Moore's talk, entitled *Castaways, Stowaways & Illegal Immigrants*, will cover the problem of introduced species of fishes, amphibians and reptiles and the potential for havoc to the environment here in southern Florida caused by these new non-native residents. Refreshments will be served following the program.



*The northern curly-tailed lizard is an invasive species spreading along the southeastern Florida coast first introduced to Florida in the 1940s from the Bahamas to help control insects in the sugar cane fields.*

## **GUIDED TOUR OF ORCA OCTOBER 21 FIELD TRIP**

Enjoy a guided tour of the Oslo Riverfront Conservation Area (ORCA) on Saturday, October 21. Participants should meet at 8:00 a.m. in the ORCA parking lot, 150 9<sup>th</sup> Street S.E. (Oslo Road). Composed of several distinct natural Florida habitats, the tour will view a wide variety of plant species, along with learning about the wildlife that frequents each habitat. Wear sturdy shoes and bring along bug repellent (just in case), a hat, and water.

## Pelican Island Audubon Society

### Officers

President, **Richard H. Baker**  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, **Lynne Larkin**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, **Robert Adair**  
Recording Sec., **Darlene Halliday**  
Cor. Sec., **Deborah Ecker**  
Treasurer, **Andrew Barr**

### Directors

<b>Jens Tripson</b>	'09	<b>David Cox</b>	'09
<b>Nancy Irvin</b>	'07	<b>Robert Smith</b>	'07
<b>Susan Boyd</b>	'08	<b>Joseph Carroll</b>	'08

### Board

<b>Janice Broda</b>	<b>Kevin Doty</b>	<b>Melissa Tripson</b>
<b>Joel Day</b>	<b>Tina Marchese</b>	<b>Paul Tritaik</b>
	<b>Sue Richardson</b>	

**Founding Member & President Emeritus** Maggy Bowman  
Office Manager **Bob Montanaro**

Pelican Island Audubon Society, Inc. is registered with the Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Div. of Consumer Services by calling toll-free within Florida 1-800-435-7352. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State.

## AUDUBON ASSEMBLY OCTOBER 19-21 COCOA BEACH

Relax and enjoy the casual, beachfront atmosphere of the Holiday Inn Cocoa Beach Oceanfront Resort. Join Audubon of Florida for engaging programs that highlight Florida's coastal environments and issues that affect their wellbeing. Get inspired and sharpen skills for advocating for birds and their protection. Hear scientists share insights on global warming and its consequences for Florida's extensive coastal areas. Collaborate with other environmentalists and birders from across the region to shape policies and take an active part in saving our birds, wildlife, and habitats. Enjoy one of Florida's best beaches while you catch up with friends, colleagues, and fellow Audubon members. Field trips will take in some of Florida's birding hot spots, so don't forget the binoculars!



Register now for all-inclusive package of \$125. Download Assembly Registration forms and check out detailed information on-line: [www.audubonofflorida.org](http://www.audubonofflorida.org). To request registration information by mail or fax, contact Vicky Johnston at 305-371-6399 ext. 134 or email [vjohnston@audubon.org](mailto:vjohnston@audubon.org).

## COASTAL CLEANUP WRAPUP

The annual Coastal Cleanup was a big success again this year with enthusiastic volunteers turning out early on a Saturday morning to rid Indian River County beaches of garbage. Held on September 16, the Pelican Island Audubon Society partnered with The Ocean Conservancy and the Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge to take part in the International Coastal Cleanup which had its beginnings here in Indian River County over 20 years ago and has subsequently grown into a world-wide event. This year the event attracted 473 volunteers in Indian River County who removed over 1,303 pounds of garbage from county beaches and the Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge.

The Pelican Island Audubon Society would like to thank Wal-Mart of Sebastian and Wal-Mart of Vero Beach for generously donating gift certificates to obtain needed supplies. We also wish to thank Ocean Spray for donating juice to hand out to thirsty volunteers. The Indian River County Sheriff's Department lent special assistance by generously donating the use of an ATV driven by Deputy Jim Enlow to move heavy garbage off the beach. Kudos is given to Jens Tripson and Nancy Irvin of the Pelican Island Audubon Society and Refuge Ranger Joanna Taylor of the Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge for coordinating the event this year.

The Society wishes to thank the following people for coordinating the Cleanup at these sites:

**Round Island** – Jens Tripson, Patrick Pitts, Richard & Anna Lanam

**South Beach** – Nancy Irvin, Susan Richardson, Jon Moore

**Jaycee Beach** - Tina Marchese, Darlene Halliday

**Wabasso Beach** – Richard Baker, Alice Rowe, David Cox

**Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge** – Joanna Taylor

**Sebastian Inlet State Park** – Terry O'Toole

Last but not least, a big thank you to all the volunteers who turned out to make Indian River County a more beautiful and safer place to live!



*Volunteers at Wabasso Beach take part in the Coastal Cleanup.*

## A NEW BEGINNING FOR INDIAN RIVER COUNTY.... SOME IDEAS TO ACT ON

All praise for the voter's wisdom in the election and their ability to see through the subterfuge of highly orchestrated campaigns meant to confuse us voters. In spite of this, we will have two new first time commissioners in November, and we at Audubon look forward to working with them as well as our incumbent commissioners. As mentioned in last month's hoot, there are a number of important issues such as our **water supply and transportation** that need immediate attention. Over the last few years, we have made a mess of much of our growth. **To preserve our paradise, we must change course, and we must change the way we do things in Indian River County.**



In addition to transportation and water issues, we need to be concerned with our whole community: change how we amend our zoning, insure that we do not move the urban service area without a referendum, protect our lagoon, preserve our beach reefs, put our beach homes on the county sewer system, protect habitat for our wildlife (our scrub jays, gopher tortoise as well as some sea turtle populations are seriously declining), and expand and improve our parks, conservation areas, and recreation facilities.

Some suggestions to correct the mistakes of the past.

◆ **Develop land use regulations and design standards to make our natural systems healthier.** The correct quantity and quality of clean water and air are essential to be available to sustain our Lagoon and other natural systems. We need a sustainable water supply to meet the needs of our community in the future while addressing storm water storage and wastewater reuse. We must stop all dumping of storm water (which can be recycled) into the fragile Lagoon while we drill new wells into our precious Floridan Aquifer. Every scrub lot should have an environmental review and a countywide survey for scrub jays and gopher tortoises, and we should provide funding for banding or marking them. This information should be put on a Geographic Information System (GIS). We cannot depend on Federal or State agencies to protect our county's wildlife.

◆ **Retain our rural lands and promote sustainable agriculture practices that restore our natural systems by providing local funding for innovative programs**

**and creative research.** Encourage innovative farming based on cutting edge research such as organic and sustainable farming and our own homegrown sanitary spinach, which we can trust, permanent agricultural conservation easements, agriculture coordinators, community-supported agriculture (CSA) and farmer's markets, special agricultural zoning, community stewardship organizations, and compact rural developments. Deter annexation and sprawl by cities, but....

◆ **Encourage and support the efforts of our local leaders to provide vibrant city centers by requiring developments and urban renewals that incorporate energy efficiency, green space, conservation of natural resources, housing for various incomes, and a multi-modal transportation system that maximizes access and mobility that promotes economic prosperity, but does not degrade established neighborhoods.** Bicycle paths and sidewalks must be encouraged so we can exercise to get somewhere. The public county buses could provide for transporting bicycles the length of our county, reducing our use of cars.

◆ **Provide exemplary, affordable, and accessible lifelong learning, cultural, and healthcare opportunities for all citizens.** Education at all ages is necessary but quality pre-kindergarten programs provide children with the greater opportunity for success in school. The "Research Coast" initiative requires better schools to attract top-notch workers in the biotech and knowledge industries (the kind of clean industries that are well suited to our county's future). And, part of that pressing need is a K-16 initiative to address the gap in science education here. Basic health care services for the poor and other special populations with special emphasis on chronic diseases such as HIV/AIDS and TB are essential. If all of our citizens are strong and knowledgeable, our businesses will thrive and be creative.

◆ **Promote our citizens to invest in businesses that sustain our workforce and environment and provide us with economic diversity and overall prosperity.** We need to enlist our many wealthy folks with business experience who could provide investment support and advice for start-up businesses that would offer jobs and economic sustainability in our community.

If you want to make these changes for the good of our County, then make your opinion known to your Commissioner. If you want to work directly on any of these issues, please let me know. In the meantime, there are still important races in the general election on November 7th that will affect our life in Indian River County. Hope to see you at the polls then.

Richard Baker, President

Pelican Island Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 1833  
Vero Beach, FL 32961-1833

## AUDUBON BIRDS WITH REAL BIRD CALLS ON SALE IN OFFICE!

A wildly unique and original line from Wild Republic, the Audubon Birds with REAL bird calls are a collection of realistic plush bean bag birds with authentic bird sounds. These plush marvels accurately replicate individual bird species in the way they look and sound. Each bird's life-like design and detailing is the result of input from Audubon, whose experts examine each bird for accurate features and markings while retaining plush attributes. The authentic bird sounds are provided by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and represent hours, months and even years of extensive fieldwork. With such a wide variety and selection of designs, these birds are ideal for collecting by both children and adults. Stop by the Pelican Island Audubon Society office at 1931 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue in downtown Vero Beach to view these fun birds and start your collection today! The small birds (6 inches) are \$6.00 while the large birds (11 inches) are \$10.00.



*A few of the many birds for sale.*

## PELICAN PETE BOOKS FOR SALE!



Children will follow curious young Pete as he weaves together scientific and historical information on his adventures into the world of nature. Vivid color illustrations, flowing narrative, commitment to accuracy, and acclaims by educators and experts make these books a popular choice of children, parents, and educators alike. Not only do we have the Pelican Pete books for sale in the Society office, 1931 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. in downtown Vero Beach, but also plush dolls of both Pelican Pete and his best friend, Annie the River Otter!

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Vero Beach, FL  
Permit No. 101

## BECOME A MEMBER OF THE PELICAN ISLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Membership benefits include subscriptions to *Audubon* magazine, *Florida Naturalist*, and the PIAS newsletter *The Peligram*. Additionally, members have full borrowing privileges to the PIAS nature library and much more!

Please choose a membership:

- \$20 one-year membership
- \$30 two-year membership
- \$15 one-year student membership
- \$20 Friend (receive *The Peligram* only)
- Check box if a *MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL*.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your name and address along with a check payable to the "**Pelican Island Audubon Society**" to: Pelican Island Audubon Society, P.O. Box 1833, Vero Beach, FL 32961