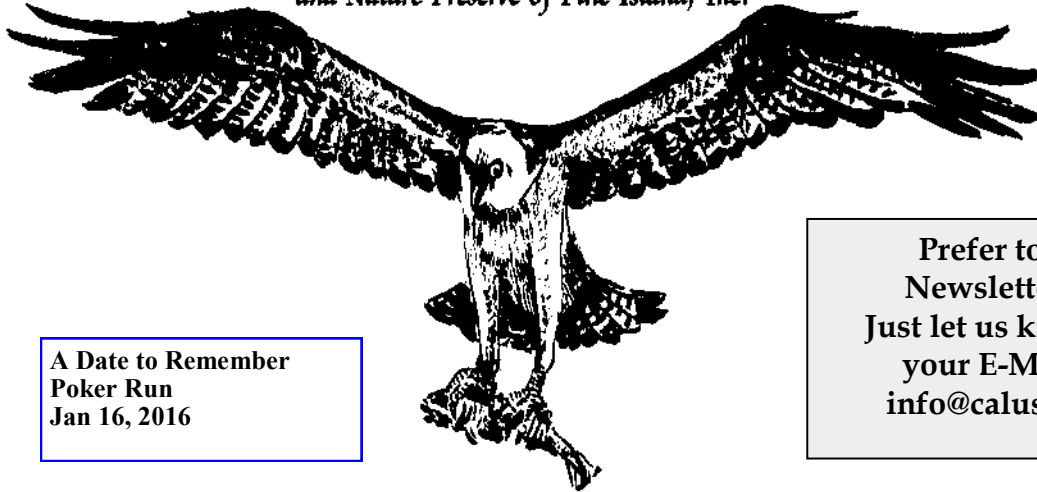


Calusa Land Trust

and Nature Preserve of Pine Island, Inc.



A Date to Remember
Poker Run
Jan 16, 2016

Prefer to receive this
Newsletter by E-Mail?
Just let us know by sending
your E-Mail address to
info@calusalandtrust.org

Newsletter #94

Founded 1976

December 2015

www.calusalandtrust.org

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE For the 40th Annual Meeting of the Calusa Land Trust and Nature Preserve of Pine Island, Inc.

Please join us for this our FORTIETH Annual Meeting to be held on Sunday, January 17, 2016 at 1:00 pm at Fritts Park (entrance off of Stringfellow Road onto Beach Daisy Lane, just south of the Pink Citrus Mobile Home Village.)

The meeting's agenda will include a review of our progress in 2015, plans for 2016 and beyond, the proposed reelection of five Board of Directors members (Brian Cotterill, Frank Potter, Joan Rosenberg, Rubye Woodhead, John Kendall) and the election of two new members to fill vacant seats (Judy Ott and Ken Sterling, whose summaries follow), plus any nominations from the floor. Ron Wesorick has chosen to retire after nearly a decade of service on the Board, several terms as an officer plus co-chair (with his wife, Pink) of the Great Calusa Rubber Duck Race, our largest fundraiser. Thanks, Ron!

However, this day is not intended to be all "business". There are raffles, Calusa Clothesline (to buy needed CLT stuff), socializing with old and new friends, enjoying a fabulous buffet spread (concocted by Winn-Dixie's deli chefs), soft beverages (you're on your own for something harder) all with Frank Tuma's great island music.

Note: Inclement weather will produce an alternative at Fishers of Men Lutheran Church at the Center.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is a standing committee chaired by long term Board member and Chief Ranger, Ed Chapin. This committee has tendered two candidates to fill vacant seats on the Board of Directors. Here are brief descriptions of each candidate:

Judy Ott

Judy, 63, moved to Pine Island in 1990 and has been an active CLT member for the past 20 years. Since 1990, she has been an estuary biologist and resource manager for the state Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves and regional Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program. Her work on the estuaries from Lemon Bay to Estero Bay includes water quality and seagrass monitoring and scallop, oyster and wetland restoration. She is a licensed boat captain and certified research and rescue SCUBA diver. She has a Master's degree in Water Resources Management and Aquatic Biology from the University of Wisconsin. She sincerely thanks CLT members for their volunteer water monitoring efforts – past, present and future – especially Ed Chapin, Brian Cotterill, Phil Buchanan, Cathy House, Bud House and Peter Ordway.

Ken Sterling

A native Southerner, Ken, 48, and his two teen-aged sons are relatively new residents of Pine Island, however, he has jumped at the opportunity to volunteer to serve at CLT work parties

and also as a wildlife surveyor at Lee County's Pine Flatlands Preserve. Ken earned his Bachelor's degree at Northern Arizona University and his Master's degree at the University of Mississippi, both in the discipline entitled "Biology: Fisheries and Wildlife Management." He has extensive experience in this field working for the public and private sectors in several western states and the deep south (Alabama and Mississippi.)

Hope to see you at our meeting. Thanks again for your support!

John Kendall, CLT President

Ed Chapin Gets His Due Rewards

It's been a long time coming, but Ed Chapin, the Calusa Land Trust's head Ranger and Chief Land Steward was honored on December 6th with a surprise dedication of one of the newest parcels named as the "**Ed Chapin Preserve**". The parcels were a collection of lots to the south of Little Smokehouse Bay, many of which were formerly owned by the Helvenston Family.

Ed was successfully kept in the dark about the renaming until the cover for the preserve sign was taken down by CLT President John Kendall. Many other Board of Directors attended the ceremony including Frank Potter, Cathy House, Rad Hazen and of course, Ed Chapin.

It's safe to say that Ed was shocked when he first read the sign bearing his name, but days later when he told me the story, he showed an appreciative grin. Ed is one of the plank holders, or founding members of the Calusa Land Trust and the amount of work Ed has performed since those early days may not be able to be calculated, but it can be appreciated.



Greg Lignelli, Rad Hazen, Ed Chapin, John Kendall, Cathy House and Frank Potter

Among his many tasks is first and foremost acting in the role of Head Land Steward, scheduling work parties on CLT preserves with willing volunteers. Anyone who has herded cats knows how interesting this can be.

Ed also leads the popular *Peter Ordway Mangrove Adventure* paddling trips that show off some of our more inaccessible preserves from the water via kayak or canoe.

Look for Ed's column in each newsletter for a list of both upcoming work parties and paddles. It is planned in the near future to create a paddle launching site so that the public may enjoy the various preserves, both the CLT's and the Lee County 20/20's that are to be found in the area of Little Smokehouse Bay.

Work Parties:

In the past 3 months we have had a total of 20 CLT Volunteer Rangers working at three different Preserves. On Saturday Nov. 14th the Lee County 20/20 Flatwoods Preserve, our Dobbs Preserve on Saturday Oct. 10th, and on Saturday Sept. 12th we worked on the new Wigert/Barron Preserve. We accomplished a lot of Invasive Exotic Plant Control (IEPC), and Control is the operative description as most of these invasive plants require years of follow up control measures. The most common invasive species are Australian Pine (*Casuarina sp*), Cajuput or Punk tree (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*), Brazilian Pepper (*Schinus terebinthifolius*), and Ear Leaf Acacia (*Acacia auriculiformis*). We also pick up trash when we find it and do trail maintenance. We also helped collect Long Leaf Pine seeds for the Gulf Coast Conservancy. They are planning on planting the Seedlings at their new Pine Island Preserve, on the east side of Stringfellow by Flamingo Bay. Our Dec. 12th work party is at the St. James Creek Preserve, and probably will be done by the time this newsletter is out.

Upcoming Work Parties are:

- Sat. Jan. 9, 2016, 9AM to Noon at Fritts Park in Bokeelia at the end of Beach Daisy Ln. We will be setting up for CLTs Annual Meeting on Sun. Jan. 17, 2016, and the Annual Rummage Sale on Sat. Jan. 23, 2016.
- On Sat. Feb. 13, 2016, I am honored to have a Work Party at our new Ed Chapin Preserve (Little Smoke House Bay) at the northeast of Pine Island. This new Preserve has great potential for a canoe/kayak trail that goes out to Little Smoke House Bay from the east end of Royal Okley Lane. We also are going to have a parking and Picnic area and a kayak launch area. I am naming the paddling trail the Peter Ordway Trail in memory of Peter who discovered this area of mosquito ditches that connect up to Little Smoke House Bay. This was one of Peter's first Mangrove Adventures.
- And on Sat. March 12, 2016 we will be back at the new Wigert/Barron Preserve on the east end of Barrancas Blvd. in Bokeelia. This is really a unusual habitat that is worth a visit to see. As our Land Acreage and Land Stewardship continue to grow, so do our needs for more Volunteers. Consider becoming a CLT Volunteer, we need You!

Peter Ordway Mangrove Adventures:

These are guided Paddles and are a way to visit and explore some of our CLT Preserves that are only accessible in this way. They also raise money for

CLT to continue our mission to Preserve Lands of the Greater Pine Island area. I guide six Paddles during the season from Oct. to March. On Sun. Dec. 20, 2015 we will be exploring the St. James Creek Preserve, now about 400 Acres. And on Sat. Jan. 30, 2016 we will visit our Kreie Preserve on the northwest of Pine Island on Jug Creek. We will also visit the Peter Ordway Tropical Hammock which is in this Preserve. And in Feb and March 2016 to be announced, we will explore our Big Jim Creek Preserve and the new Ed Chapin Preserve/Little Smoke House Bay. Again these are also Fund Raisers for CLT, a suggested donation: \$20 /person .

Rummage Sale

On Sat. 23 Jan. 2016 we will have CLT's Annual Rummage Sale at Fritts Park. We are thankful to have founding member Alison Ackerman heading up this Fund Raiser again this year. CLT is asking for donations of Quality Items to sell. All proceeds will go to help CLT continue its mission. Our Volunteers will be at Fritts Park taking in donation starting at noon on Fri. Jan. 22, 2016 Please look through your stuff and contribute to a good cause.

For more information on Work Parties, Paddles, or the Rummage Sale. Call Ed Chapin at 239-218-7531

News of the Strange - Gas Can Borers

In the last three years some residents of the Florida Panhandle have been finding small 1/16th inch holes in their plastic gasoline cans. The cause of this mystery is the Camphor Shot Borer (*Cnestus mutilates* [Blandford]), which is a very small beetle that normally attacks the trees for which they are commonly named.

Native to Asia, they were first discovered here in Mississippi in 1999 but the borers (aka: Gas Can Borers) may be found as far north as Ohio and West Virginia and west through Texas. One theory is the addition of ethanol to gasoline has made the mixture hard to pass up for the tiny beetles. Volatile compounds such as ethanol



are given off by stressed or wounded trees. Trees in such conditions are easier for the beetles to attack and overcome the trees defense mechanisms.

Other local hosts include the loblolly pine, sweet gum, chinaberry and some native cherry and plum trees. For the trees, the borers introduce a fungus that causes the damage. For home and boat owners, the damages are possible fuel leaks on land or sea.



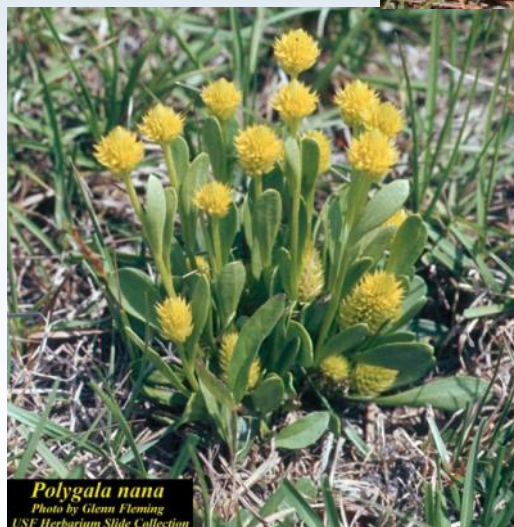
From: PestPro Magazine, Vol. 15, No. 5, p.15 or http://pestpromagazine.com/dl/issues/Sept-Oct_2015_web.pdf

Wildflowers in bloom at Wigert Barron Preserve



Carphephorus corymbosus
Florida Paintbrush

Balduina angustifolia
Yellow Buttons



Polygala nana
Candyroot or
Low bachelors buttons

_____ \$ 25 Basic Member
_____ \$ 50 Donor
_____ \$100 Contributor

_____ \$500 Patron
_____ \$1000 Benefactor
\$ _____ Other Amount

Mail to:
Calusa Land Trust
PO Box 216
Bokeelia, FL 33922

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

--	--	--	--

EXPIRES: _____ / _____

Your Name: _____

E-Mail: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Alt Phone _____

How do you want to
receive your
Newsletter?

- ☐ US Mail
☐ E-Mail

"A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING 800-435-7352 TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE."

Full financial details, including federal tax returns, can be obtained by contacting the Land Trust's Treasurer at (239) 283-3871 during working hours. Federal Employer Identification Number: **59-1782265**. The Calusa Land Trust is an exempt Organization under section **501(c)(3)** of the IRS code. Florida Dept of Agriculture & Consumer Services registration number **CH3439**. No portion of donations received by the Trust is paid to any professional solicitor. 100% of all donations are received by the Trust.

December 2015

Work Parties – Everyone Welcome

They are on the second Saturday of each month except August.
9:00am to Noon We need your help.

Jan	9, 2016	Fritts Park, Beach Daisy Lane, Bokeelia
Feb	13, 2016	Ed Chapin Preserve, Barrancas, Bokeelia
March	12, 2016	Wigert Barron Preserve, Barrancas, Bokeelia
April	2016	To Be Announced

Future work parties, check with Ranger Ed 239.218.7531



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 charitable giving and make a significant impact on CLT funds.



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

Remember this date:

March 5th

DUCK RACE!

**PINK
ADDRESS
LABEL? TIME
TO RENEW.**

The Calusa Land Trust Mission Statement

The purpose of the Calusa Land Trust is to protect the natural diversity and beauty of the Pine Island region by acquiring, managing and preserving in perpetuity environmentally sensitive or historically important land and to foster appreciation for and understanding of the environment and our past.

The Land Trust is a broad coalition of individuals, families, and businesses who agree that the acquisition and protection of natural land is important if we are to retain the quality of life which makes the Pine Island region so attractive to people and to wildlife. The Land Trust is supported entirely by people who donate their time, talent, and financial support to protect irreplaceable natural resources. The Land Trust does not engage in political activity or lobbying and takes no position on zoning or regulatory matters. The Calusa Land Trust represents people's willingness to put their money and time where their hearts are to make a difference.

