

2017 IMPORTANT DATES

February 11, Saturday
Work party at Fritts Park
Cleanup from
Rummage Sale
9-12

February 18, Saturday
Annual Garden Club
Garden Gala at
Phillips Park

February 25, Saturday
The Great Auto Races
Methodist Church
Show Starts 2:00pm

March 4, Saturday
The Great Calusa Duck
Race at Low Key Tiki,
a new fun location

March 11, Saturday
Work Party
St. James Creek Preserve

March 11, Saturday
From Our Hearts
Breastfest
8am-4pm
St James City Civic
Association

April 8, Saturday
Work Party
Dobbs Preserve

May 13, Saturday
Work Party
Taylor Preserve

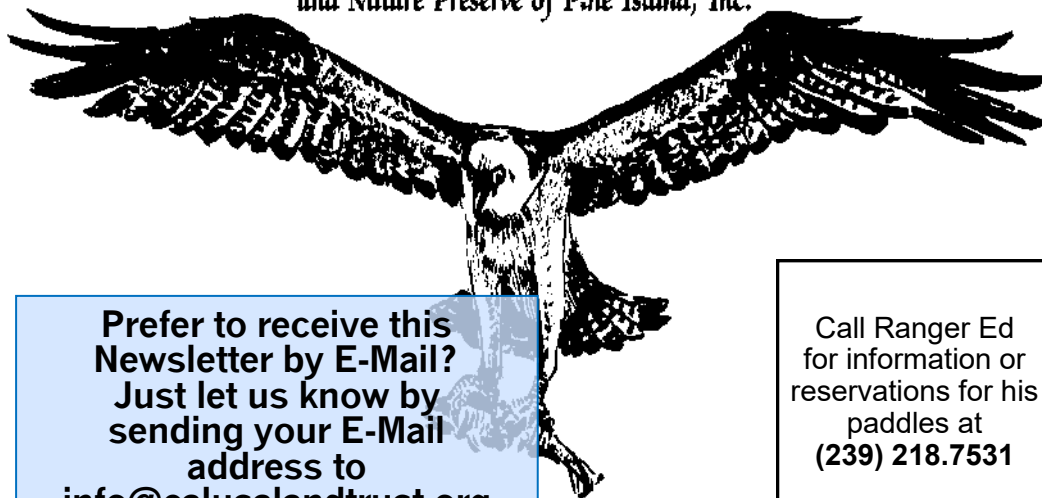
June 6, Saturday
Work Party
Chapin Preserve

July 8, Saturday
Work Party
Wigert-Barron Preserve

2nd Saturday
Of each Month Means
A Work Party at a
CLT property

Calusa Land Trust

and Nature Preserve of Pine Island, Inc.



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

Call Ranger Ed
for information or
reservations for his
paddles at
(239) 218.7531

Newsletter #99
Founded 1976

February 2017
www.calusalandtrust.org

Saturday March 4
NEW LOCATION
Low Key Tiki
in Saint James City
Fun starts at Noon
The Races are between
3:00 and 4:00pm
See Page 2 for more details



Norm Gowan
founder of the
Calusa Land
Trust Rubber
Duck Race.

GREAT CALUSA RUBBER DUCK RACE SATURDAY MARCH 4

FIRST PLACE DUCK WINS \$1,000

Need Not Be Present to Win

The Calusa Land Trust's 19th Annual Great Rubber Duck Race is on Saturday March 4th at a new location, the LOW KEY TIKI in St. James City. The festivities will begin at noon. First will be live music by local duo the Pine Island Sound featuring Al Bickford and Darryl Tison and their old time bluegrass. A little later, High Tide Band will set the mood with classic and contemporary beach party rock and dance music.

Two unique shows will also be entertaining you—our local Pine Island stars –Little Lilly's Hula Hoop Troupe 12:30 to 1:00 who will give demonstrations and encourage audience participation. That sounds like fun! Joined later in the afternoon by the Hot Flashz Dance Team 1:30 to 2:00 who formerly danced for the Florida Flames basketball team. Add to that a dunk tank, featuring local island celebrity targets, and a Kona ice truck with many many incredible snow-cone flavors to try. Erin and John of the Low Key Tiki will have their famous drink and lunch specials.

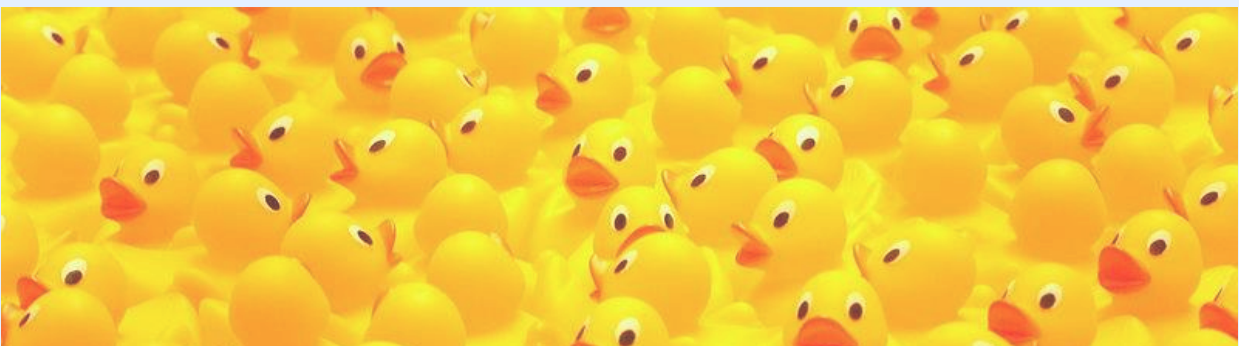
There will be games such as Chuck A Duck, and 50-50 raffles all afternoon so you might win some cash. In addition, for your entertainment, we will introduce you to four authors/artists. They are Marty Kendall with her book Calusa Indians and their Plant World; Joyce Lake, a well-known children's author; J.D. Daniels introducing her new mystery novel set in Greater Pine Island; and Jim Friedlander, a writer of historical novels.

Towards the end of the afternoon, we will present a live auction of high ticket items and all during the afternoon we will have a large silent auction of prizes and gift certificates donated by local businesses and individuals.

The big event will be the duck races occurring between 3 and 4pm depending on tide. The Super Duck Race is first with 100 baby ducks (\$20 each, sold only on race day) competing for cash winnings. Next will be the Great Rubber Duck Race consisting of 3000 numbered ducks (\$5 each and already on sale) racing for cash and gifts. The winning duck will earn \$1,000 cash, 2nd scoops in \$500, 3rd place \$250 plus five runners-up each waddling home with a bag of goodies worth at least \$200. Buy early since last year all tickets were completely sold out by race time.

After resting in the off season all ducks have been in training and are just itching and quacking in anticipation of race day. Even if you are not the owner of a winning duck, you can be proud of your support of the Calusa Land Trust, Pine Island's all-volunteer land conservancy, with its mission to acquire, preserve and protect this special place called Pine Island.

Rubber Duck Race tickets are now available from our member volunteers, in front of the Winn Dixie or at the Low Key Tiki. You may also purchase them on our website www.calusalandtrust.org. For more information contact CLT's president, John Kendall, at 283-8175 or Email john@calusalandtrust.org.



Officers, Directors and Chairs for 2017



Beginning at top left is President John Kendall; Vice President Rad Hazen; Secretary Bill Hummer; Treasurer Joan Rosenberg; Chief Ranger Ed Chapin. Second row Directors Frank Potter, Cathy House, Brian Cotterill, Carolyn Murphey and Rubye Woodhead. Third row Directors Sonny Koutsoutis, Jaren Cernicky, Judy Ott and new to the Board in 2017 Robert Ballard. At the bottom left are non-board chairs Alice Trant, Duck Race and Gloria Andrews Calusa Clothesline.

Great Calusa Rubber Duck Race



**Mark your Calendar
Duck Race Saturday
March 4 Low Key Tiki**

Pine Island Garden Club's 16th Annual

Garden Gala

**Saturday
February 18, 2017
9 to 2**

**Garden Park
Pine Island Center**

Free Parking and Admission

Native and Tropical Plants

Food ■ Silent Auction

Demonstrations and Lectures

Children's Potting Table

Art ■ Baked Goods

Music ■ Raffle

All this and more . . .

www.pineislandgardenclub.org

The Pine Island Garden Club with well over 125 members is a proud supporter of the Calusa Land Trust.

Once a year they hold a "Garden Gala" fund raiser and some of the proceeds from the Gala are sent along to the Calusa Land Trust. The CLT has even named one of its preserves for the Garden Club. This year the Gala will be on Saturday February 18 at Phillips Park also known as Garden Club Park. The park is just North of Pine Island Road on Stringfellow.

The Gala includes a bake sale, and plant sellers from all over Southwest Florida,

In addition there are demonstrations on many garden related activities.

Over the years, The Garden Club has purchased a 15 acre preserve for \$15,000 and recently donated funds toward building two tiki huts near the St. James Creek Preserve.



Schedule for
**Garden Gala Demonstrations
And Lectures
Feb 18, 2017**

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| 9:30 – 10:00 | Debbie Hughes | <i>Herbs</i>
Debbie is the Senior Horticulturist at the Ford and Edison Winter Estates |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | Susan Johnson | <i>Keshiki Bonsai with Orchid</i> |
| 11:30 – 12:00 | Greg Lignelli | <i>Basic Bonsai</i> |
| 12:30 – 1:00 | Donna Cook | <i>Anything Goes</i>
Fun floral arrangements using plant materials from your garden |
| 1:30 – 2:00 | Marty Kendall | <i>Calusa Indians and Their Plant World</i>
Marty is the author and illustrator of <i>The Plant World of the Calusa: A View from Pineland</i> |

Pinewood Trails Park Bokeelia

Hours: Dawn to Dusk

A new Lee County Park on Pine Island. Go West on Pine Island Road from the 4-way stop past the fire station on the right and the Church on the left and look for the sign.



Lee County Parks & Recreation acquired the 40-acre parent tract back in 1990. Following a series of public meetings, they developed the northernmost 30 acres into a passive park, which opened on July 15, 2016.

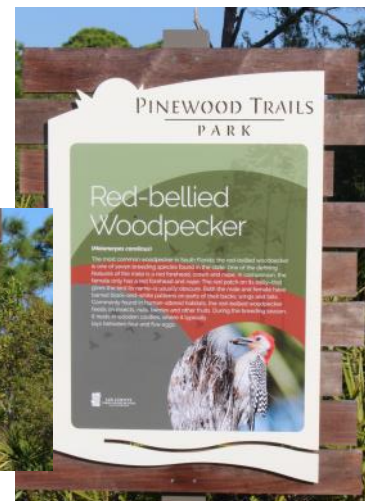
True to its name, Pinewood Trails Park contains over 8 acres of pine flatwoods, a common Florida ecosystem characterized by slash pine trees. The remainder of the site is covered by palmetto prairie, salt marsh and mangrove ecosystems. Together, these areas provide habitat to a variety of

plant and animal species, including the gopher tortoise, which is currently listed as a threatened species by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Other park inhabitants include the osprey, red-shouldered hawk, northern cardinal and various woodpecker species.



Visitors can catch a glimpse of this wildlife by walking/hiking along the park's two trails, known as

Pine Loop and Holly Way. The 8-foot wide Pine Loop trail is paved, ADA accessible and roughly one-third of a mile long. Holly Way is an offshoot of Pine Loop, primitive in nature and roughly one-quarter of a mile long. Visitors should be aware that parts of these trails may experience flooding during the summer or following heavy rain events during other times of the year.



Ranger Report

Ed Chapin

Successful Work Party: On January 14, more than 15 volunteers helped to clean up Fritts Park and setup the tent for the Annual Meeting and Rummage Sale. Great response from our members!

Work Parties in the Future:

Saturday March 11 - Saint James Creek Preserve

Saturday April 8 - Dobbs Preserve

Saturday May 13 - Taylor Preserve

Saturday June 6 - Chapin Preserve

Saturday July 8 - Wigert-Barron Preserve

No work Party in August

Peter Ordway Mangrove Adventures: Last two Paddles This Spring Season:

Sunday, February 19 9-12noon Big Jim Creek Preserve

Saturday, March 26 12-3pm Chapin Preserve

Call for Reservations 239.218.7531



Calusa Land Trust Alison Ackerman Annual Rummage Sale A "Huge" Success

The Annual Rummage Sale raised another \$1500 for the Land Trust.. The weather was chilly but clear and the sun bright for the many volunteers that assisted with the sale.

As always Ed Chapin and Alison Ackerman coordinated a fun event. Members dropped off lots of good items on Friday and volunteers sorted and priced everything to be ready for Saturday morning.

Volunteers were Mark and Sandy Laux, Tom and Pat Venderwelde, Judy Ott, and Laura Cogan. Joan Culver, Linda Ballou and Donna Venesky also helped. Apologies to any volunteers not listed here. Volunteers are the key to a successful sale so think about helping next year.



Annual Great Calusa Poker Run A "Huge" Success

This Poker Run along with the Harrington Party raised almost \$16,000 for the Land Trust. The Poker Run had almost the largest turnout with about 500 Pine Islanders "playing poker". The weather was just perfect, and the Low Key Tiki restaurant provided great entertainment along with food and drink specials while everyone checked their poker hands. The next weekend, Brian and Marsha Harrington hosted a party with a dance band and lots of good food. Everyone was happy and the Land Trust benefited.

We appreciate all of the volunteers who manned the Poker Run stations for the entire day. We couldn't have successful fundraisers without volunteers especially Mike Mendelson who has many good ideas and friends who help.



_____ \$ 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 #:

--	--	--	--

EXPIRES: _____ / _____ **Sec. Code** _____

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.

February 2017

Work Parties—Everyone Welcome

Preserve work parties are on the second Saturday of each month from 9:00am to Noon. None in August. We need your help.
Check the Pine Island Eagle or our web site: www.calusalandtrust.org for the current month's location.

Saturday February 11 Fritts Park cleanup after Rummage Sale 9-12

Saturday March 11, St. James Creek Preserve 9-12

Saturday April 8 Dobbs Preserve 9-12

Saturday May 13 Taylor Preserve 9-12

Future work parties, check with Ranger Ed 239.218.7531

Beverages and Snacks Provided
to show appreciation for our super volunteers

Board of Directors

John Kendall
President

Rad Hazen
Vice President

Bill Hummer
Secretary

Joan Rosenberg
Treasurer

Jeren Cernicky
Director

Brian Cotterill
Director

Rubye Woodhead
Director

Cathy House
Director

Ed Chapin
Land Steward

Sonja Koutsoutis
Director

Robert Ballard
Director

Carolyn Murphey
Director

Frank Potter
Director

Judy Ott
Director



Saturday March 4
The Great Calusa
Duck Race at
Low Key Tiki,
a new fun location.

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

2016 ANNUAL ACQUISITION REPORT

Rad Hazen
Acquisition and Planning Chairman

Since our last annual report, the acquisition committee has considered and approved two land purchases and one donation.

The first is two half acre lots purchased from Mr. Bill Mantis and Ms. Christine Trost for the total of \$17,347.00. These lots, at the end of Royal Okley Lane are adjacent to our Ed Chapin Preserve and provide an excellent opportunity to create a parking and launch site for our planned canoe/kayak trail at this preserve. Both lots are great examples of transition uplands adjacent to mangroves.

The second purchase is a one acre lot opposite and to the south of the above acquisitions on Royal Okley Lane purchased from Ms. Karen Glass for \$9203.00. This purchase enlarges our uplands holdings, offers additional parking and another possible launch site. It requires little, if any exotic plant removal.

We also received a very exciting land donation from Dr. Doug Mosher and the Peterson family. This property is 50 acres of mangrove wetlands located in Matlacha Pass south of our Dobbs Preserve. This parcel comprises approximately two thirds of a mangrove island bordered on the west by Calusa Creek. The east side of the island has narrow, sandy beaches and great places to wade and swim. The west side is great for canoeing/kayaking and the fishing can be rewarding. Great area for birding also.