

IMPORTANT DATES

October 30, Sunday

First of the season -
Paddle down Fish Eating
Creek near Palmdale

November 12, Saturday

Work party at Ed Chapin
Preserve

November 19, Saturday

Home Town Carney at
Winn Dixie 11am-5pm

November 26, Saturday

Paddle to Calusa Island
our first Preserve

January 14, '17 Saturday

The Poker Run at Low
Key Tiki, new fun location

January 21, '17 Saturday

Post Poker Run Party
sponsored by the
Harringtons to benefit
CLT

January 22, '17 Sunday

The Calusa Land Trust
Annual Meeting at Fritts
Park

February 18, '17 Saturday

Annual Garden Club
Garden Gala at
Phillips Park

March 4, '17 Saturday

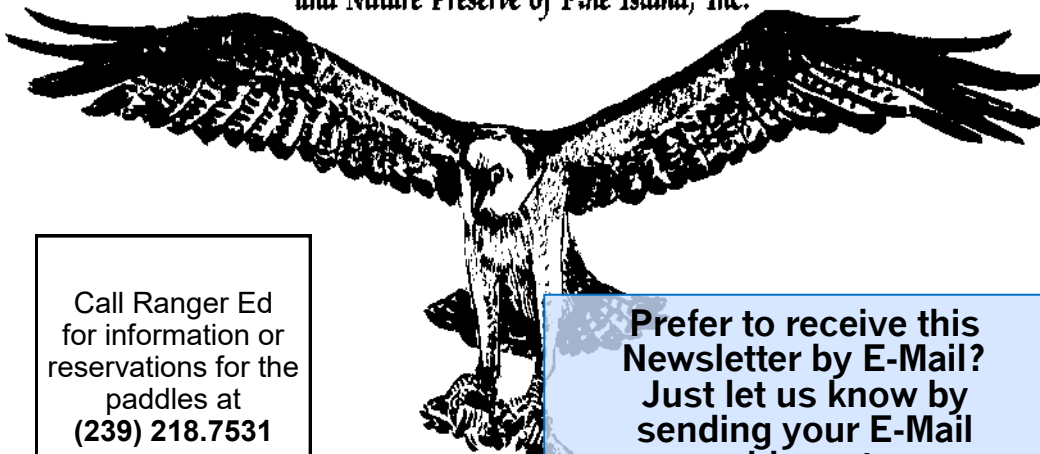
The Great Calusa Duck
Race at Low Key Tiki, a
new fun location

2nd Saturday

Of each Month Means
A Work Party at a
CLT property

Calusa Land Trust

and Nature Preserve of Pine Island, Inc.



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

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

Newsletter #97

Founded 1976

October 2016

www.calusalandtrust.org

Peter Ordway Mangrove Adventures - These are Fun -

Every year from October to March Ed Chapin, our Chief Ranger, guides monthly paddles in memory of Peter Ordway who started these paddle trips back in the 1990's. These paddles help raise money for the Land Trust and are a good way to explore our many preserves that are only accessible by water.

The first paddle of the 2016-2017 season will be on Sunday, October 30th down Fisheating Creek. This is our only off island trip. Fisheating Creek is a beautiful cypress lined creek with plenty of gators and other wildlife. Our launch point is near Palmdale on US-27, about an hour drive from Pine Island. Fisheating Creek eventually drains into Lake O and then on to the Everglades.

The next paddle is set for Saturday, November 26, heading for Calusa Island. Calusa Island at the North tip of the Pine Island was Calusa Land Trust's first purchase back in 1976.

Reservations are required and a suggested \$20 per person donation goes to the CLT. For more information or to make a reservation, please call Ed Chapin at 239.218.7531. More paddles will be scheduled.



IT AIN'T FUN ASKING FOR MONEY

John Kendall, President

Don't you just hate it being hounded for money? Particularly by the "professionals" who blind call you (usually at a nasty time like at dinner or on Sundays) plus they get paid a piece of the "take." I've signed up for DoNotCall and they still get through.

So, for me anyway, I also dislike being on the solicitation side of the picture. However, with the Calusa Land Trust being a tax exempt/tax deductible charity [ie, IRC Section 501(c)(3) certified] it must seek contributions from people like you, in order to survive.

CLT utilizes only a softsell approach, such as the pink label on your newsletter as a member dues reminder, a neighbor waving you down for Poker Run tickets, volunteers offering Duck Race tickets (Phil and Ginny Schaller are the royal couple in this realm), the annual meeting donation jar, purchases of CLT clothing goodies, etc. From these means we are able to balance our annual budget (eg, administration, insurance, stewardship...) However, to acquire land and construct infrastructure requires much more.

To accomplish "much more" CLT has created an endowment fund, in order to assure its viability (and its preserved lands) in perpetuity. The sources we employ are:

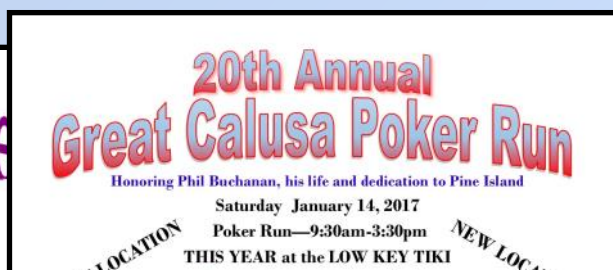
- (1) grants from foundations (both private and corporate),
- (2) special gifts (money, land or in-kind).
- (3) bequests.

The two former means are familiar to you; the latter requires one's acceptance of mortality and the necessity of legal counsel in establishing estate planning.

Virtually all Southwest Florida charitable entities compensate a "Director of Development" to supervise these tasks; for CLT it's just us volunteers. Should you choose to include CLT in your will or trust, the bequest could be directed into the endowment fund or given with conditions or restrictions on its use. We don't even need to know of its existence, since your Board does not plan its disbursements by relying on the passing of its supporters.

With that said, thank you again for your "living" support of this land conservancy whose mission is to acquire, preserve and protect into perpetuity this magical place called Pine Island.

John



Ranger Report

Ed Chapin

We have monthly work parties on the second Monday of each month, except August when we are on vacation. I urge all our members and friends to come out and join the work parties. We meet at 9:00am and work till noon; bring a friend or neighbor! Locations vary from month to month and are listed below, posted on our web site, www.CalusaLandTrust.org and often in the Pine Island Eagle.

Our past work parties have been well attended and we accomplished a lot in a short time. I want to thank our President John Kendall for his diligence in getting the word out by sending timely emails to the Pine Island Eagle editor, Ed Franks. These timely articles have doubled our volunteer efforts. Thank you, John!

On Saturday June 11th, our work group effort was at the Bud House Preserve in Bokeelia. This preserve is located on Meadow Lane off of Harbor Drive, east of Pineland Road. It is a remnant piece of the ancient Calusa Canal that once went from the Randell Research Center at Pineland on the west to Indian Field Island on the east side of Pine Island. It is a small preserve of only three acres, and it has some second growth Long Leaf Pine that were once the dominant canopy trees of Pine Island before the island was cleared in the 30's, 40's, and 50's. We had a great turnout of 18 volunteer rangers. We worked on controlling the ever present invasive exotic plant species. The usual Brazilian Pepper, Melaleuca and Earleaf Acacia (See Flyer next page). This last species has been taking over Pine Island by storm in the last few years. We also cleared parts of the Canal depression and trimmed up the short trail as well.

On Saturday July 2nd we had a decorating party at Brian Cotterill and Judy Ott's house for the Land Trust float in the 4th of July parade. We had 11 volunteers and were able to put together a really nice float! Thanks to all for the good work, especially Judy with her banner making skills and all the crafty volunteers. We all enjoyed the festivities on our national holiday.

Saturday July 9th our work party was at the St James Creek Preserve. Again, a good turnout especially for this time of the year when many of us travel to cooler climates. We had 12 volunteers working to control exotic vegetation and maintain the St. Jude Trail.

Future Saturday morning work parties:

November 12 at the Ed Chapin Preserve at the end of Royal Okley Lane, Bokeelia

December 10 location to be announced

For more information, call Ed Chapin at (239) 218-7531.



If you are an Amazon customer be sure to use www.smile.amazon.com. Select your favorite charity, the Calusa Land Trust we hope, and that charity will receive a contribution based on your purchases. Reading this in an E-Mail a click on the box at the left will take you to **SMILE**.

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.

Invasive and undesirable plant!

**Have you seen this plant
on your property?**

This is **Earleaf acacia**
(*Acacia auriculiformis*) and
it has recently been
identified as becoming
invasive and unmanageable
on Pine Island!



If you see this plant, remove it! Call the Lee County Extension Service at 239-461-7514 for information on how to get involved in the Earleaf acacia control program on Pine Island.

The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) is an Equal Opportunity Institution authorized to provide research, educational information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function with non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Florida, IFAS, Florida A. & M. University Cooperative Extension Program, and Boards of County Commissioners Cooperating.

Treasures of the Trails for October 2016: Got Cabin Fever? Try Star Gazing: Star Sedge at Galt Preserve

Photo & Text by Judy Ott



If you're like me and you start to get anxious about getting back outdoors after a long hot summer, put on some long sleeves and pants and a little insect repellant and trundle on down to the Galt Preserve for a hike along its many trails. You'll be rewarded by seeing patches of small white stars waving among the grasses in the low spots throughout the preserve. The white stars are appropriately named Star Sedge and the 3-5 white points you're seeing on each plant are actually the bracts surrounding the small white center flower. Similar to poinsettias and bougainvillea, much of the color of the "flower" is actually part of the modified leaf-like structures (bracts) next to the true flower, drawing attention to it for pollinators to find. The bracts of the Star Sedge are white in the center and green towards the pointy tips. And, yes, they do have leaves, which are found near the base of the plant.

Star Sedge is found in moist and wet pinelands, marshes, savannahs and road sides from Tennessee to Texas. In Florida, they are less common in the north and panhandle, with isolated populations in the Keys. The 2 inch stars are most prominent during the fall and winter and plants grow to 1 – 2 feet tall. Star Sedges (*Rhychospora colorata*) are part of the sedge family, and have triangle shaped stems.

Sedges, together with rushes, (like our Black Needle Rush) and grasses are common mixed plant communities found in our freshwater and saltwater wetlands. Remember the saying from your freshman Botany class "sedges have edges and rushes are round"? Next time you see a Star Sedge or Black Needle Rush, check out the stem shape and impress your friends with your scientific knowledge.

Star Sedge prefers sun or partial shade and acidic loamy soils. It doesn't seem to have any medicinal purposes or folklore associated with it. But it can be used as a beautiful addition to your landscaping in those hard to plant low spots and in rain gardens. It is one of the plants commonly used in wetland restoration projects and stormwater pond native vegetation plantings. Star Sedge is attractive to butterflies and bees, and to humans because of its showy stars nestled among the bright green foliage, which stays lush year round, as long as there is moisture in the soil. So put down the phone, get out for a walk, gaze at the stars and listen to the quiet... and the birds...and enjoy the seasons turning.

MORE HAPPENINGS ON PINE ISLAND

Home Town Carney

**Mark your calendars!
Saturday, November 19th!**

The Matlacha Mariners are sponsoring a brand new event called the Home Town Carney. The location is the North Lot of the Winn Dixie from 11AM to 5PM.

There will be local bands, food and beverages, kids rides area and lots of booths filled with fun and games you find at an old fashioned carnival. The Calusa Land Trust will have a booth with lots of "Rubber Ducky" games for kids and adults. Come join us for a fun local event.



Check Your Newsletter

If you receive your newsletter by E-Mail check for a reminder to contribute in the E-mail. You can click on the link and go to our web page and make a contribution. If you receive your newsletter by US Mail then check the label and if it is pink it is a reminder about your annual contribution. In either case it means it has been more than a year since we have heard from you.

Contributions can be made via PayPal at our web site www.calusalandtrust.org or by using the form on page 7 of this newsletter and mailing a contribution to PO Box 216 Bokeelia, FL 33922

Our Land Acquisition Committee is working hard to protect more of Pine Island and your contributions make it all possible.

Annual Calusa Land Trust Rubber Duck Race

The Ducks are Coming, the Ducks are Coming!
Great Calusa Rubber Duck Race - March 4, 2017 at a New Location LOW KEY TIKI in Saint James City.

The 3,000 Bright yellow ducks are currently in their Winter Nesting grounds, but after the first of the year, will start their rigorous training to prepare for 2017's Premier Fun-Filled Day!

Live and Silent Auctions, Entertainment, Food, Beverages, Games for all ages and the Best Duck Race on the Island!



20th Annual Great Calusa Poker Run

Honoring Phil Buchanan, his life and dedication to Pine Island

Saturday January 14, 2017

Poker Run—9:30am-3:30pm

THIS YEAR at the LOW KEY TIKI

NEW LOCATION

**Tickets
\$5 donation**



NEW LOCATION

**Tickets
\$5 donation**

Cash prizes for Best Poker Hand

\$1,000 **Best**

\$350 **Second**

\$150 **Third**

\$100 loser's drawing (must be present to win)

**Boat, car, bike, kayak, golf cart, walk or run—
just come for the fun!**

For information and tickets call or e-mail

Mike Mendelson—570.764.1191—

mikemens@earthlink.net

**Thanks to the Volunteers from the Pine Island Boat Club and the
Saint James City Boat Club.**

All proceeds to Calusa Land Trust

_____ \$ 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 #:

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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.

October 2016

Work Parties—Everyone Welcome

Preserve work parties are on the second Saturday of each month except August from 9:00am to Noon. We need your help. Check the Pine Island Eagle or our web site: www.calusalandtrust.org for the location.

Saturday November 12 at the Ed Chapin Preserve at the end of
Royal Okley Lane, Bokeelia

Saturday December 10 location to be announced

Future work parties, check with Ranger Ed 239.218.7531

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



PINK
ADDRESS
LABEL? TIME
TO RENEW.



Calusa Clothesline

The bumper sticker is new this year. They are either Blue or Green and show your support of the Calusa Land Trust. Those that go on a Peter Ordway Paddle will receive a bumper sticker if they do not fall into the water.

Gloria, our Clothesline Chair, and her helpers will be at most Island events during the season and they too will have bumper stickers. Of course, they will also have shirts, jackets and tees along with many other items that have the CLT logo on them. These purchases also help the CLT acquire more land on Pine Island.