

Calusa Land Trust

and Nature Preserve of Pine Island, Inc.



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Newsletter #88
Founded 1976

August 2014
www.calusalandtrust.org

From The Birds Nest

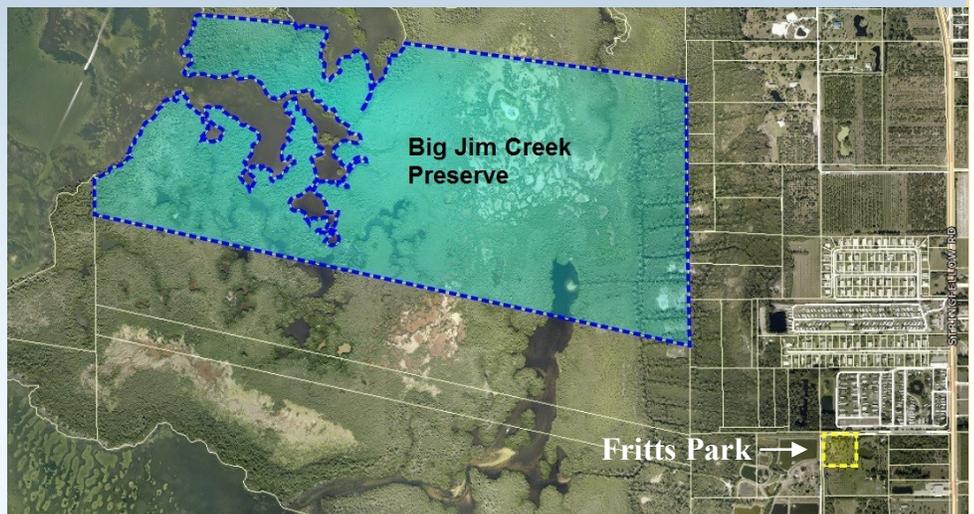
Should the CLT acquire mangrove wetlands or uplands properties? Rather than wrestle with this issue your CLT Board of Directors endeavors to strike a balance. Our Evaluation Worksheet (to which I referred in the last newsletter) perhaps favors wetlands, since it provides extra credit points for land contiguous to coastal waterways and/or existing preserves. Besides, (1) mangroves offer the genesis for water quality and nature's viability and (2) wetlands can be purchased for a fraction (5 to 10%) of the costs of higher grounds, thus giving us more bang for our buck.

All of our properties are open to the public. However most mangrove swamps are understandably inaccessible except for kayak view. For Pine Islanders to gain pleasure and knowledge from a nature preserve another great mechanism is to walk and touch it. Since the past

John Kendall, President

negative experience of management of Picnic Island (a garbage and sanitation monster) your Board wishes to assure that land stewardship is manageable. So what are the Board's pending plans for uplands?

At the north end, CLT already owns Fritts Park (highlighted in yellow) for picnics, home to our annual meeting and rummage sale and canal access to our Big Jim Creek Preserve (highlighted in blue.) However, we are actively pursuing parcels of unique scrub uplands (for hiking and educational



use) transitioning into mangroves with potential kayak access to Jug Creek. This would be a jewel for the Bokeelia area.

To the south in St. James City at the *Norm Gowan Trailhead Vista* at the *St. James Creek Preserve* we face a potential parking issue as the *Stabile Rd.* west parcels are slated for home construction. Luckily, last year Brian and Caron Smith donated to CLT their four parcels on *Crestwell Ct.* (bright yellow border) and just this past month members Bill and Claudia Dewane "bargain" sold their like parcels (teal color on map below). We now have additional access to the *St. Jude Trail* with a potential gathering area. The Grant Application

committee is applying for a foundation grant to cover exotic invasive removal while the Fundraising committee is seeking assistance from a local service club interested in constructing a gazebo and shelled parking area. This would be a boon to SJC nature lovers.

Will we continue to seek wetlands for preservation? Absolutely! Again, we balance our diversity of acquisitions coupled with available funds and people power. As a current land trust member, we know you already support our "acquire, preserve and protect" mission. Thank you!



Ranger Report

by Ed Chapin

WORK PARTIES

Our volunteers had been working hard maintaining and enhancing our Calusa Land Trust preserves.

On Saturday May 11th I had five volunteers working at our Baxley Preserve. We were doing trail maintenance and also found several Brazilian Pepper, Melaleuca, and Carrotwood trees. We managed to cover the entire five acre preserve and removed all the invasive plants we could find. It had been two years since we worked on this preserve which is located on the end of Redwood Rd, which is just south of Pine Island Center. It was a job well done.

On Saturday June 14th we were planting 80 four foot tall slash pine trees at the St. James Creek preserve. We had a good turnout for this time of the year with 13 of us which included 2 Matlacha / Pine Island Fireman who brought a brush truck used to water in our new plantings. I wanted to thank Engineer Keith Guerin and Firefighter Jacob Tellin for their help. They pumped almost 500 gallons of water in the planting. The weight of water is over 8 pounds a gallon, so even if you don't do the math this saved us a lot of hard labor. I was hoping that the rainy season had begun and we did have a little rain afterwards but only time will tell is was enough. So John Kendall, Bob House and I have been hand watering the new trees as needed.



But the time this newsletter arrives, we will have had our July 12th work party. I hope to continue trail maintenance on our paddling trail from Fritts Park out to our Big Jim Creek Preserve.

August is our vacation time, with no work parties scheduled. Here is a list of our upcoming work parties (All work parties are 9 AM to noon).

Sat. 13 Sept 2014	Dobbs Preserve	Sabal Drive, SJC
Sat. 11 Oct 2014	St James Creek Preserve	Stabile Rd., SJC
Sat. 8 Nov 2014	Pine Island Flatwoods	Stringfellow Rd., SJC
Sat. 13 Dec 2014	Back Bay Preserve	SJC
Sat. 10 Jan 2015	Fritts Park	Beach Daisy Lane, Bokeelia

Judy Ott and Arielle Taylor-Manges take a well deserved breather.



Marty Kendall gets one more little pine tree into the ground.

Two of Pine Islands finest: MPIFD firefighter Jacob Tellin, engineer Keith Guerin and their brush truck helps the planting effort with water deliveries. That stuff is HEAVY when hauling by hand!



Peter Ordway Mangrove Adventures

Ed Chapin

I guide about six paddling trips to our more aquatic CLT preserves every season running from October to March. We named these trips after the late Peter Ordway who started these paddle trips in the 1990's as a way to raise funds and show off our preserves to those who may not visit them by themselves.



I am honored to continue this tradition and here is a list of the first trips of the new season.

Sun. Oct 26, 2014	Fisheating Creek (day trip to Glades County)
Sun. Nov 2, 2014	Calusa Island Preserve (11AM to 2 PM)
Sun. Dec 27, 2014	St. James Creek Preserve

If you have any questions or more information call Ed Chapin at (239) 218-2531.

Sales & Marketing

Gloria Andrews

Members & Friends we now have access to ordering CLT apparel on line!! Go to www.Yurstore.com, click on Yurstore.com & enter the code, CLT, in upper right corner and start shopping! Or just one click on the link on our CalusaLandTrust.org web page takes you **directly** to our store to start shopping right away! Check it out today!

Here you will find a variety of selections from 3 categories: Polo shirts, woven shirts & outerwear. YOU select the style, color, size (sizes youth to tall in some selections), click on "add logo" or order without logo, pay on line and it is shipped to your door! Check it out!!

During "season", Dec. 1 – April 15, we will continue with our regular offerings "on site" at festivities on the Island. HAPPY SUMMER!!

Another New Product line

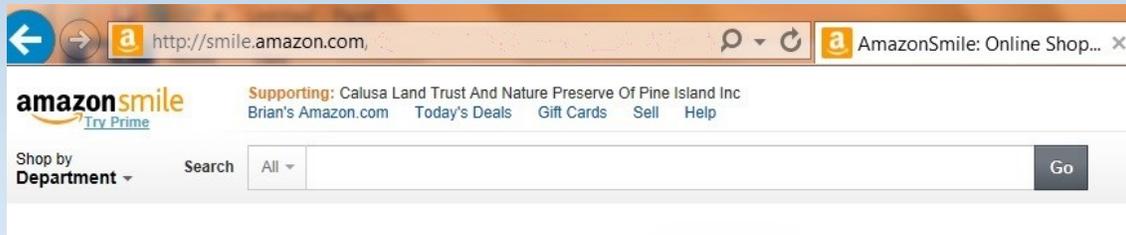
We have a limited supply of metal Calusa Land Trust License plates for the front of your vehicle, and other small metal yard signs so that you can proudly proclaim your support for the CLT. They cost \$25 each and of course all profits will go to help support the Land Trust. Look for these signs at our next public function!



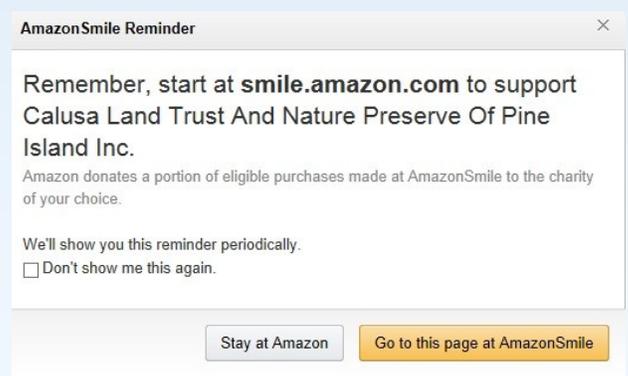
Amazon.com - Shop at Amazon and help the Calusa Land Trust.

The online seller Amazon.com has created a program to benefit not-for-profits like the Calusa Land Trust.

If you are an Amazon customer you can go to <http://smile.amazon.com> and register the Calusa Land Trust as your charity of choice. Then each time you want to make a purchase you go to <http://smile.amazon.com> and the Land Trust will receive 0.5% of your purchase. Thanks for supporting the Calusa Land Trust.



The sign up process is easy, it will allow you to review and even change charities (though we hope you won't!). The system will also send reminders if you perhaps try to log on to Amazon.com instead of smile.amazon.com



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

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

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

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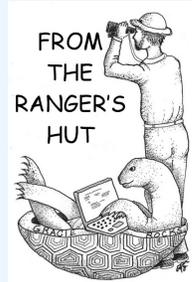
Full financial details, including federal tax returns, can be obtained by contacting the Land Trust's Treasurer at (239) 283-3871 during working hours. Federal Employer Identification Number: **59-1782265**. The Calusa Land Trust is an exempt Organization under section **501(c)(3)** of the IRS code. 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. **August 2014**

Work Parties – Everyone Welcome

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

Sept. 13, 2014	Dobbs Preserve - Sabal Drive, St. James City
Oct. 11, 2014	St James Creek Preserve, Stabile Rd., St James City
Nov. 8, 2014	Pine Island Flatwoods, Stringfellow Rd, SJC
Dec. 13, 2014	Back Bay Preserve, St. James City
Jan. 10, 2015	Fritts Park, Beach Daisy Lane, Bokeelia, FL

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**

**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.

