



SIERRA CLUB  
FOUNDED 1892

# Calusa Digest



VOLUME XXII, NUMBER 6

SERVING SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

JUNE, 2000

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Because space in the newsletter is limited, some of the available material is printed directly to the website at

<http://www.sierraclub.org/chapters/fl/calusa/index.htm>

If you do not have access to the Internet and would like to read one of these articles, please call Fay at 283-5812 and a copy will be mailed to you.

Visit the new Fisheating Creek website at  
[www.fisheatingcreek.com](http://www.fisheatingcreek.com)

## Executive Board Meeting

MONDAY

JUNE 5, 2000

7:00 P.M.

(FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH)

EVERYONE WELCOME!

CALL ELLEN PETERSON

992-5455

FOR DIRECTIONS

## Stop Bombing the Ocala National Forest

[ ] Send - Send this letter [ ] No - Don't send this letter  
[ ] Read - Please read my response personally

*Please send your responses to Ellen at P.O. Box Post Office Box 345, Estero, FL 33948 or email [yepeterson@cyberstreet.com](mailto:yepeterson@cyberstreet.com)*

Date: 05/23/2000

From: Ellen WW Peterson <[yepeterson@cyberstreet.com](mailto:yepeterson@cyberstreet.com)>

To: People shown below:

Subject: Stop Bombing Ocala National Forest

Please stop the bombing of Florida's Ocala National Forest. For years the U.S. Navy has strafed and bombed portions of the Forest for practice, doing harm to the fragile ecosystem and infringing on enjoyment of the Forest by humans.

The present contract between the Forest Service and the Navy expires in December, 2000. It should not be renewed. Please tell the Navy and the Forest Service that the contract should not be renewed, and that the Ocala National Forest must be preserved unharmed for the benefit of its plant and animal life and the human population who visit it.

Sincerely,

Ellen WW Peterson

If you approve, letters to the following officials will be individually written and sent. They address the official by name at least once and may contain information specific to that official and this letter.

President Clinton <[president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)>,  
Vice President Gore <[vicepresident@whitehouse.gov](mailto:vicepresident@whitehouse.gov)>,  
Representative Boyd <[rep.boyd@mail.house.gov](mailto:rep.boyd@mail.house.gov)>,  
Representative Canady <[rep.charles.canady@mail.house.gov](mailto:rep.charles.canady@mail.house.gov)>,  
Representative Foley <[mark.foley@mail.house.gov](mailto:mark.foley@mail.house.gov)>,  
Representative Goss <[porter.goss@mail.house.gov](mailto:porter.goss@mail.house.gov)>,  
Senator Graham <[bob\\_graham@graham.senate.gov](mailto:bob_graham@graham.senate.gov)>,  
Representative Hastings <[alcee.pubhastings@mail.house.gov](mailto:alcee.pubhastings@mail.house.gov)>,  
Senator Mack <[connie@mack.senate.gov](mailto:connie@mack.senate.gov)>,  
Representative McCollum <[bill.mccollum@mail.house.gov](mailto:bill.mccollum@mail.house.gov)>,  
Representative Mica <[john.mica@mail.house.gov](mailto:john.mica@mail.house.gov)>,  
Representative Miller <[miller13@mail.house.gov](mailto:miller13@mail.house.gov)>,  
Representative Scarborough <[fl01@mail.house.gov](mailto:fl01@mail.house.gov)>,  
Representative Stearns <[cstearns@mail.house.gov](mailto:cstearns@mail.house.gov)>,  
Representative Thurman <[thurman@mail.house.gov](mailto:thurman@mail.house.gov)>,  
Bcc: Jim Harris <[Jim@ProgressiveSecretary.Org](mailto:Jim@ProgressiveSecretary.Org)>



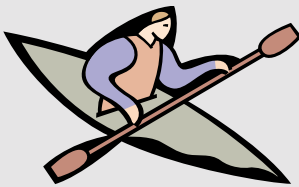
## OUTINGS NEWS

The May camping trip to Myakka State Park was an absolutely fantastic trip! The mothers and daughters were amazed at all the alligators, turtles, birds, snakes, squirrels and other wildlife. One friendly squirrel really made the trip for the young ones. Everyone enjoyed hiking, canoeing and night time alligator hunting!

## OUTINGS

**June 3 (Sat)** National Trails Day. Inside the Edison Mall in front of Earth Outfitters. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We'll join many other organizations in honoring this day to further the awareness of the importance of our trails system.

**Jun 20 (Tue)** Solstice Celebration/Potluck dinner. (replaces monthly membership meeting) We'll meet at Bonita Beach Park where Bonita Beach Rd. meets the Gulf. Call Cheryl at 941-540-0905 to set up a dish to bring, or to just get more details. Bathing suit optional!



**Jul 8 (Sat)** Kayak tour of Buck Island, Captiva. Greg with Captiva Kayak Co. will lead us through this environmentally sensitive island. Great for beginner kayakers. The tour begins at 10:00 a.m. and takes about 1 1/2 hours. Call Kris for details at 275-7831.

**November** Women's Backpacking Trip on Florida Trail thru Ocala National Forest. TBA.

## DON'T FORGET!

### SOLSTICE CELEBRATION/POTLUCK DINNER REPLACES OUR MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING!

We'll meet at Bonita Beach Park where Bonita Beach Rd. meets the Gulf. Call Cheryl at 941-540-0905 to set up a dish to bring, or to just get more details. Bathing suit optional!

On a sad note, our outings chair, **Lynn Livingston**, is leaving this area to take a job elsewhere. As outings chair he has done an excellent job in reviving the outings program, as well as setting up our website and initiating the monthly membership meetings. We will miss him, but our new outings chairs, **Julia Habel** and **Kris Decker**, have been doing an excellent job on the outings they have led, and we know they will continue doing so!

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SIERRA CLUB, CALUSA GROUP  
<http://www.sierraclub.org/chapters/fl/calusa/index.htm>

POST OFFICE BOX 345  
 Estero, FL 33948

### Ellen Peterson

Chair 992-5455  
 yepeterson@juno.com

### Wes Wilkins

Vice Chair 352-5601

### Cheryl White

Secretary 450-0905  
 cherwhit@yahoo.com

### Fay Phillips

Treasurer  
 Newsletter 283-5812  
 FayPhil@AOL.com

### Gary Beardsley

Conservation 948-1600

### Bobbie Lee Hasty

Agency for Bay Management  
 Committee 992-9061

### Karen Cartwright

Publicity 693-3854  
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### Julia Habel

Outings 432-0111  
 julestrouble@hotmail.com

### Kris Decker

Outings 275-7831  
 kdecke@gate.net

### John Swingle

Legislative 693-3854  
 merlyn@vyberstreet.com

### Shirley Sheehan

Membership 947-1823

### Cullum Hasty

Land Management 992-9061

## Membership

**Yes**, I want to help safeguard our nation's precious natural heritage. My check is enclosed.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 email \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club  
 Mastercard  Visa Exp Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
INTRODUCTORY	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32

F94Q **W3303** .1 **SIERRA CLUB**  
FOUNDED 1892

**Sierra Club**  
 P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO, 80322-2968

*Calusa Digest is a publication of the Calusa Group of the Sierra Club, and is published ten times yearly. Subscription is included with Sierra Club dues or can be obtained by non-members from the Calusa Group for \$5/year.*

## SIERRA CLUB POLITICS HIT THE NEWS

According to the Wall Street Journal 3/15/00 an ideological struggle is pitting moderate environmentalists against a radical group at the Sierra Club these days. The old guard argues that Sierra's mission is best served by a pragmatic approach that makes compromise with industry and government agencies over matters such as logging. The radicals, who call themselves John Muir Sierrans, seek nothing less than the total restoration of wilderness around the U.S. The fight so far favors the John Muirans who have won control of seven so the clubs 15 national board seats, shifting the club to a more radical stance on many issues. For example the club is calling on government to ban all commercial logging in national forests. It wants the draining of the massive Lake Powell reservoir on the Colorado River and the restoration of Glenn Canyon to its pre dam condition. (It's not mentioned by the Journal that Lake Powell is so silted up that it is becoming virtually useless as a reservoir.) Moderates warn that the Club risks losing its credibility as its politics get closer to those of groups like Greenpeace or Earth First. Much of its influence comes from the broad constituency it has garnered through its relatively moderate politics. Club officials, however, think such dissent is healthy. "Tension is what makes us strong" says Carl Pope. The Club's executive director.

**Calusa would like to know how you feel.** Please mark the following statements. FOR or AGAINST. We will use some local as well as national issues.

*continued next column*

Circle your opinion on each issue and send your response to **Ellen Peterson, P.O. Box 345, Estero, FL 33948**, or email your answers to **yepeterson@cyberstreet.com**.

1. Calusa should take a strong stand against the awarding of building permits for commercial uses such as the YMCA in the water recharge areas of the county even though it is a wonderful organization and a good cause and can't raise enough money to build anywhere else. FOR    AGAINST
2. Calusa should take a strong stand against commercial logging in our national forests. FOR    AGAINST
3. Calusa should work for more access for public input in land use planning and decision making. FOR    AGAINST
4. Calusa should support the building of more roads east of I 75 such as the planned 951. FOR    AGAINST
5. Calusa should support the building of hiway 951 if it is put on pilings through the water recharge areas and made limited access FOR AGAINST
6. Calusa should support the widening of I 75 to 10 lanes (the present footprint) and US41. FOR    AGAINST
7. Calusa should support the building of large developments outside the urban service area since they can be planned to be environmentally sensitive. FOR    AGAINST
8. Calusa should support the allowance of mitigation for developers if they destroy wetlands. (Mitigation is the paying of money to the county or other entities that must maintain public lands or that can purchase land to preserve. -sort of like a cost of doing business.) FOR    AGAINST
9. Calusa should continue the general meetings even if the attendance is not always good because:
  - \_\_\_ (1) I can go to promote an issue I have.
  - \_\_\_ (2) Environmentally oriented programs are needed so we can learn about our local as well as national issues
  - \_\_\_ (3) I like to meet people with similar interests

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

OUTINGS: I WOULD GO IF: \_\_\_\_\_

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

...to help work on a white paper for an alternative to the Comprehensive Plan based on the needs of wildlife in the area. For further information call Wes Wilkins (352-5601) or Gary Beardsley (948-1600).

### RAINFOREST FACTS

Here are some rainforest facts: Rain forests provide 25-40% of all pharmaceutical products. Two acres, equivalent in size to two football fields, of rain forest are destroyed every second. Many species are becoming extinct without their existence ever being recorded. 20% to 50% of rain forest plants have yet to be named. There's lots more info at the site.

To help preserve the rain forest and make the planet a healthier place for all of us, simply visit Care2.com's Race for the Rain Forest site and click on the "Save the Rain Forest" button:

Each click generates a donation, paid by advertising sponsors, to The Nature Conservancy's Adopt An Acre program.

Thank you for your support!

The Race for the Rain Forest is hosted by

Care2.com (<http://www.care2.com>), homebase for people who care about the environment.

Your email address will not be added to any mailing lists and will not be solicited by Care2.com in any way. Care2.com strongly disapproves of spam.



### FLORIDA LEGISLATION

If you want to read the bills, journals, amendments, log onto: [www.leg.state.fl.us](http://www.leg.state.fl.us)

If you want to look up candidates and

contributions, log onto: [www.election.dos.state.fl.us](http://www.election.dos.state.fl.us)

**ACTION:** CALL 850-488-7146; Member Services in the Governors office and tell them you oppose SB1114 and request that Governor Bush veto this bill. No questions asked.

**PHOTO OP:** Remember, when you are canoeing, kayaking, hiking: take pictures of the water line on the cypress or other land marks & catalog them. Remember to include the date and time of year and location. We will need them for next session's submerged lands fight. Thanks for all the clippings; keep sending them to us, as well as copies of your letters to the editors (We can recycle some of the ideas-call if you need some).

Florida Chapter Sierra Club:  
Susie Caplowe, Chapter Lobbyist  
[susiecaplowe@cs.com](mailto:susiecaplowe@cs.com)

### June "Extra" - ARTICLES THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT INTO THE NEWSLETTER

Exposed Submerged Pipeline	1	Genetically Modified Food	3
Panther Tags	2	Veto Letter to Gov. Bush	4
Seattle & the WTO	3	<a href="http://www.sierraclub.org/chapters/fl/calusa/index.htm">http://www.sierraclub.org/chapters/fl/calusa/index.htm</a>	

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