



# The Timucuan March-April 2006

Newsletter of the Volusia-Flagler Sierra Club

P. O. Box 929, Daytona Beach, Florida 32115

[www.florida.sierraclub.org/Volusia/](http://www.florida.sierraclub.org/Volusia/)

The next business meetings of the Volusia-Flagler Sierra Club's **Executive Committee** will be held on **February 22nd** and **March 29th** at **5:30 p.m.**, at **Daytona Beach Regional Library (City Island Library Center), 105 E. Magnolia Avenue, Daytona Beach.**

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## PROGRAM FOR MARCH MEETING IN DeLAND

The Gillespie Museum, 234 E. Michigan Avenue, corner of Amelia & East Michigan Avenues on Stetson University Campus

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1st, at 7:00 p.m.

### Smart Growth: A Panel Discussion

Representatives of varying viewpoints on how Volusia County should face the future will join in a panel discussion presenting the participants' definition of "smart growth," identifying locales where "smart growth" is or will be implemented, discussing the strengths and weaknesses of methods of dealing with growth, and discussing a goal consensus for the Volusia/Flagler communities.

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## PROGRAM FOR APRIL MEETING IN NEW SMYRNA BEACH

St. Peter the Fisherman Church,  
4220 Saxon Drive

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5th, at 7:00 p.m.

### CANAVERAL NATIONAL SEASHORE

A Park Service Ranger will bring us an update on activities in the preserve, focusing on turtles and their nesting habits.

*Directions to the meeting:* Head east over the south causeway and turn right/south at the traffic light (a CVS drug store is at the intersection) and travel approximately 2.4 miles to the church (on the right). The parish hall, where we are meeting, is behind the church on the Intracoastal Waterway.

## SIERRA SPECIAL @ SHELLS !!

**Shells** Seafood Restaurant, 725 E. 3rd Avenue, will offer **Happy Hour and Early Bird Specials for Sierrans** all evening on April 5th, so that you can enjoy a meal before or after our meeting. Just mention that you are with the Sierra Club!

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Car pools from outlying areas for meetings will leave at **6:00 p.m.:**

**DeLand** meets at Wendy's parking lot, corner of 17/92 and U.S. 92 for the April meeting in New Smyrna Beach. For information, call **Dennis Elster** at **386-943-9415**

**New Smyrna Beach** arrangements for the March meeting in DeLand to be made on an individual basis. For information, call **Pam Powell** at **386-428-9312**.

**Flagler/Palm Coast** arrangements TBA.

**Daytona Beach** meets March 1st and April 5th at Daytona Beach Regional Library (City Island Library Center), 105 E. Magnolia Avenue, Daytona Beach. For information, call **Marsha Lewis** at **386-258-1605**.

## ***Volusia-Flagler Sierra Club Welcomes New Members and Transfers***

### **Daytona Beach**

Patricia Bennett  
B. M. Crittendon  
Kathleen Muir  
Douglas Gough  
Nancy Lackey  
Katherine Williams  
Richard Gentry  
Albert Kritzberg  
E. A. Parsons  
Robert Stilwell  
C. W. Ebbert  
Willard Campbell,  
Jr.

### **DeLand**

Mary Boekhoff  
Mrs. Marion Burns  
Charles Gregg  
Barbara Page  
Brenda Rankin  
Caryn Fennell  
Michael Davis  
Launda Soper  
Sue Sexton

### **Orange City**

Alfred Jansen  
Jacqueline Atkinson  
Carol Klein

### **Ferndale**

Bob Valiquette

### **Edgewater**

Marilyn &

Joseph Callahan  
George Matthews  
Peggy English  
Patti Turpin  
Linda DeFalco  
Gerald Beechler  
Peter Stolpe

### **Port Orange**

Jacqueline Connelly  
Donald Glassey  
Louis Limauro  
Christian Perkins  
Ryan Stookey  
Ann Brown  
Walter Drouin  
Ashley Kish  
Kevin Doxstater  
Shari Schneider  
Earl Pratt  
Carlyn Hamilton  
Shirley Jensen  
Tom & Nancy  
Coleman

### **New Smyrna Beach**

Mary Crawford  
Rex Williams  
Carolyn & Jim  
Bromley  
Phil Mastin, Jr.  
Patricia Babcock

### **Clermont**

Jason Leggett  
Howard Youngmeyer

Larry & Rosanne  
Francis

### **Ponce Inlet**

Felice Freeman

### **Ormond Beach**

Lisa Crotty  
Christine Dann  
Penelope Norton  
Jay Manger  
Tom Gibbs  
M. Dobbins  
Ruth Washburn  
Pamela Novy  
Robert Shipley  
William Curtis  
Julia Dowst  
Cyntha Fielding  
Judith  
Schwarzenbacher  
Elmer Uveges  
Kyle Vegter

### **Pierson**

Sally Reins  
Jamie Apanel  
Pati Dance

### **Palm Coast**

Jane Culpepper  
Sandra Lee  
Dolores Schatz  
Terry Bond

Carol Frechette  
Carol Crosby-Egan  
Penny Logan  
Betty Moore  
Mayte Lugo  
Henrietta Gunderud  
William Ware  
Marion Reid

### **Deltona**

Mark Gardner  
Richard Greene  
Linda Powell  
Guy Shane  
Patricia Watson  
Herbert Riegel II  
Mario Daniel  
Larry Cole  
Michael Gibbs

### **DeBary**

Maxine Wright  
Bruce Olson  
Joan Lajza

### **South Daytona**

Clayton Cassella  
Sharon Unser

## SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS

**Marjorie Byron** will lead a bicycle trip around **Lake Woodruff Wildlife Refuge**, beginning at **10 am Sunday, March 12**. Eastsiders can meet at 9 am at Home Depot parking lot on International Speedway Boulevard (92) to caravan to the site. Bicycle helmets are required, water and sunscreen protection urged. In case of rainy weather the day before we might just cycle around DeLeon Springs. After the 6 mile easy dirt circuit of the Refuge, we will ride to DeLeon Springs State Park for an optional pancake brunch at the Sugar Mill restaurant, where you griddle your own. Fresh milled flour and bread for sale in the gift shop.

Call Marjorie in the evenings at **386-736-0493** to participate. Thank you, Marjorie!

Mar 11-12 (Saturday & Sunday) **Backpack trip to Hidden Pond in the Ocala National Forest**. The Suncoast Sierra Group will explore the Juniper Wilderness Area trail and discover our National Forests, and a little bit of Wilderness in our own state. A moderate hike of about 12 miles total. Co-Leaders: **Mike Pici, 727-798-9227** and **Ben Berauer, 727-392-2821**).

## Volusia-Flagler Sierra Club Takes Stock in Scholars

The Volusia-Flagler Sierra Club's Executive Committee recently voted on the distribution of scholarship funds for this year from the James and Rosalee Moore Scholarship Fund. Based upon the excellent handling of our investments by Justin Bundza and Don Lieb, it was decided to award \$5,000 to worthy recipients in Volusia County, since the award was made to Flagler County last year. The amount was evenly divided between a student working with Louise Chapman, Mainland High School teacher, on The Rose Bay Restoration Project and Take Stock in Children.

Take Stock in Children is a program within FUTURES Foundation of the Volusia County Schools. Take Stock provides mentors and college scholarships to outstanding high school students who are at risk due to a number of factors, most commonly low family income. The great benefit of funneling the \$2,500 award through Take Stock in Children is the fact that it will be matched 100% by the State of Florida, thus doubling the impact of our donation.

Although Take Stock scholarships are not awarded until high school graduation, they are assigned at the time students are accepted into the program. Thus, the Club will be able to follow the progress of "our student" through all four high school years. He or she may be invited to our meetings and may get interested enough to participate as a member, start a Roots and Shoots chapter at school -- possibilities abound .

In addition to raising funds by donations such as ours, Take Stock hosts fundraising events. On **Friday Feb 24th**, local blues and jazz legend **Mark Hodgson** will perform with The Daytona Blues Society from 7-10 p.m. at The Daytona Playhouse. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased from **Marsha Lewis**. Call her at **(386) 255-6475 x 20241** or **(386) 258-1605**.

## THE SUNSHINE STATE FINALLY LOOKS TO THE SUN

Representative **Dorothy L. Hukill** has filed House Bill 713 which seeks to establish the Florida Solar Incentive Program to provide financial incentives that will encourage the installation of solar energy systems on commercial and residential buildings, and facilities operated by public and private not-for-profit organizations.

Key elements of HB 713 are: funding of \$1.2 million per year for five years; rebates of \$4 per watt for solar PV systems purchased, beginning July 1, 2006; \$5 per watt rebate if system manufactured in Florida; rebates decline 50 cents per watt annually for five years; maximum rebate \$20,000 for residential system and \$100,000 for commercial or public building; Public Service Commission to establish net metering rules; support for consumer education, protection, system certification, etc. The bill is a modest, but critical step

toward more widespread solar use in Florida.. The recent federal energy bill provides 30 percent purchase rebate for solar PV systems for two years, maximum of \$2,000. This would add to HB 713 provisions.

The Florida Solar Energy Center in Cocoa along with Volusia-Flagler Sierra Club member **Lee Bidgood** (386-423-4682 or [bidgood@ucnsb.net](mailto:bidgood@ucnsb.net)) of New Smyrna Beach have contributed to the bill. You can contact Lee for more information, or track the bill's progress at <http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/bills.aspx>.

The bill has been assigned to the Utilities and Telecommunications Committee, which is scheduled to meet again on **February 21st**. It is essential that we show our support for this measure to ensure this first committee approval. Here are the names and addresses of the Committee members:

### Florida House Utilities and Telecommunications Committee

Ken Littlefield, Chair

[ken.littlefield@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:ken.littlefield@myfloridahouse.gov)

Bob Henriquez, Vice-Chair

[bob.henriquez@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:bob.henriquez@myfloridahouse.gov)

Bob Allen, [bob.allen@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:bob.allen@myfloridahouse.gov)

Tom Anderson,

[tom.anderson@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:tom.anderson@myfloridahouse.gov)

Bruce Antone, [bruce.antone@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:bruce.antone@myfloridahouse.gov)

Gustavo Barreiro, [gustavo.barreiro@myflorida.gov](mailto:gustavo.barreiro@myflorida.gov)

Marti Coley, [marti.coley@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:marti.coley@myfloridahouse.gov)

Anitere Flores, [Anitere.flores@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:Anitere.flores@myfloridahouse.gov)

Denise Grimsley,

[denise.grimsley@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:denise.grimsley@myfloridahouse.gov)

Randy Johnson, [randy.johnson@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:randy.johnson@myfloridahouse.gov)

Stan Jordan, [stan.jordan@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:stan.jordan@myfloridahouse.gov)

Arthenia Joyner, [arthenia.joyner@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:arthenia.joyner@myfloridahouse.gov)

David Meador, [david.meador@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:david.meador@myfloridahouse.gov)

Dave Murzin, [dave.murzin@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:dave.murzin@myfloridahouse.gov)

Curtis Richardson,

[curtis.richardson@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:curtis.richardson@myfloridahouse.gov)

Yolly Roberson, [yolly.roberson@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:yolly.roberson@myfloridahouse.gov)

Shelley Vana, [shelley.vana@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:shelley.vana@myfloridahouse.gov)

## Save Our Cultural Heritage!

There was a full house at the Halifax Historical Museum addressing the crisis of Lilian Place, the yellow Victorian bed and breakfast on the East side of the Orange Avenue-Silver Beach bridge, and other historical properties at risk of demolition for development. Instigating and chairing the meeting was our own Nancy Long, South Daytona city commissioner and Sierran. Also present were Shiela McKay, Daytona Beach commissioner, Gary Libby, formerly of the Museum of Arts & Sciences, Harold Cardwell, historian, Suzanne Kuehn, former county cultural head, and News Journal reporter Kay Semion and many others.

It seems developers buy an old building and let it sit and deteriorate until code enforcement comes in and helps them destroy it. Property taxes become too high for the owner, who needs to be recognized as the custodian of a cultural jewel. Thus the owner of Lilian Place might still run his bed and breakfast with tax relief and protection from development.

Gary Libby urged the immediate formation of a 501c3 corporation, which can take months. Private individuals are not eligible for grant money. If a 501c3 corporation owned the house and had educational programs, there would be no taxes assessed. He said the state has done an economic impact study - Libby had a full color brochure - showing how historical preservation pays. See [www.heritage.com](http://www.heritage.com). Imagine if St. Augustine Village had been razed for parking, as was planned! Lake Eola was preserved through block grants and tax abatements. Ybor City, the cigar-making district of Tampa, was once a slum, but is now self-sustaining by collecting rents from businesses. DelRay Beach has excellent preservation ordinances. Barberville (Pioneer Village) is a collection 14 relocated historic properties.

We need to vigorously lobby the Daytona Beach city commissioners to save this particular property. (Of course there are other worthy buildings everywhere.) In their relentless pursuit of more tax monies, elected officials are allowing rich treasures to be lost. We need a willing partner in the city. In Daytona alone, there are 5 nationally registered historic districts, yet city commissioners have yet to grant tax abatement to the homeowners. Some fine old houses have become crack houses or been subdivided into apartment buildings. I recently attended a deposition in a South Beach Street historic building, now used as law offices. First we lost the Ormond Hotel, very recently the irreplaceable King's Mansion on A1A. The city effectively prevented its restoration. The developer was willing to keep it as a club house for the condominium but code enforcement

made that impossible. The Live Oak Inn is also at risk.

One bittersweet possibility is to use millage from the profits from the destruction of historic properties to preserve others. Two doors North of Lilian Place sits another Victorian for sale, surrounded by condos. TIF - tax increment funds from redevelopment - stay in the area, but Lilian Place is not in a redevelopment district. (Most TIF money goes to paying off bonds and policing.) Now on the market for \$2.1 million, Libby suggested it could even be moved - at great expense! - to Tusawilla Park at Nova and ISB. Do you have any rich friends?

Tax abatement for new businesses was once on the ballot, and voters passed it. There is no historic preservation officer in Daytona. We need 5- and 10-year plans, and to work with the state. A native son, Governor Schulz's home, near Caribbean Jack's (Rio Vista & Anita Streets) and other wonderful old houses there are also threatened. Demolition permits need to be flagged so we know what's about to be lost.

Daytona Beach has a 130 year old history from its 1876. founding. The area between Seabreeze and University just West of A1A is another historic neighborhood needing protection Daytona City Commission vote 6-1 against preservation. They need to hear from us, for by the night of the vote, it will be too late. Committees are needed to research grant possibilities, other cities' ordinances, publicity, education, lobbying, and membership. Can you join the fray?

The Historic Preservation Board meets at **5:15** pm on the **third Tuesday** of the month. Plans are to meet again at the Halifax Historical Museum (a restored bank) immediately before that meeting at 4 pm. As if we didn't have enough world-saving to do, the dear old houses of the past need our help too!

Looking to the *future*, **Kevin Para** of the New Smyrna Beach Utilities Commission, has a vision for an 840 acre parcel between I-95 and Route 44. A few years ago, Duke Energy of Carolina planned to use the property to build a combined cycle natural gas power plant. But Florida Power and Light saw the proposed merchant plant as unfair competition (though FPL has merchant plants in other states) and took their argument to the state Supreme Court, where they won. We in the Club were supportive of the project as a cleaner alternative to coal or nuclear energy, but now there's the possibility of a truly green development. Solar, wind and biomass to power green housing! Stay tuned!

-- **Alex Ross**, Conservation Chair

## PLAN AHEAD ....

Our May 3, 2006 meeting at City Island Library in Daytona Beach will feature **Anne P. Birch**, Indian River Lagoon LCA Program Director for The Nature Conservancy. Anne will tell us about a local effort to increase the oyster population in Mosquito Lagoon by placing specially constructed mats on the bottom of the Lagoon, upon which oysters may grow.

After hearing a brief history of the decline in the oyster harvests along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts of the U.S., we will do our part to help reverse this situation by making some mats. Anne will provide all materials, so attendees need only bring their enthusiasm and engineering skills. Not to worry, the mats are a simple, but ingenious design.

Due to the nature of the program, at the request of the speaker, ATTENDANCE WILL BE LIMITED TO 25, so make your reservation early! Contact **Marsha Lewis** at **386-258-1605** to get on the preferred list.

**Thank you! . . . Thank you! . . . Thank you!**

. . . to **Marsha Lewis**, for representing the Sierra Club *both days* at the Flagler County Home Show in February . . . to **Al Hadeed**, for his outstanding representation of the Environmental Council of Volusia and Flagler Counties (of which Volusia-Flagler Sierra Club is a member organization) as *amicus curiae* in the County's successful challenge to Deltona's annexing almost 5000 acres of property in the County's conservation corridor. . . .

## National Sierra Club Election Coming

The annual election for the Club's Board of Directors is now underway. In March, you will receive in the mail your national Sierra Club ballot. This will include information on the candidates and where you can find additional information on the Club's website.

The Sierra Club is a democratically structured organization at all levels. Yearly participation in elections at all Club levels is a major membership obligation. Your Board of Directors is required to stand for election by the membership. This Board sets Club policy and budgets at the national level and works closely with the staff to operate the Club. Voting for candidates who express your views on how the Club should grow and change is both a privilege and responsibility of membership.

## "BLACK MAPS" CATALOG MAN'S UNDOING OF THE NATURAL WORLD

Renowned photographer **David Maisel** presents views of earth that are both spectacular and horrifying. The Southeast Museum of Photography presents three series of aerial photographs of environmentally impacted landscapes combined with a new media sound and image installation **February 25th to June 23rd**. The museum is located in Building 100 at the Daytona Beach Campus of DBCC at 1200 West International Speedway Blvd, three miles east of I-95. Admission is free.

See a preview at

[http://www.smponline.org/spring\\_2006/blackmaps\\_01.html](http://www.smponline.org/spring_2006/blackmaps_01.html)

## CALL FOR MARINE MONITORS

The next Marine Debris Survey will be held **Saturday, March 11th** and **April 8th**, at **9 a.m.** We meet at North Peninsula State Recreation Area, north of Ormond Beach on A1A, at the last beach parking lot in Volusia County (Highbridge Road). The survey takes about two hours\* and volunteers are welcome! (\*The more volunteers, the sooner we're done!)

Call **Ann Arnold** at **(386) 409-3742** to volunteer, to verify *how much we need you*, or for information.

## This Spring

Visit the Club's election website: <http://info.sierraclub.org/ct.html?rtr=on&s=arz,hq3v,qq4,bdkw,irxv,2ax1,7d98>. This site provides links to additional information about candidates, and their views on a variety of issues facing the Club and the environment. You should use your own judgment by taking several minutes to read the ballot statement of each candidate. Then make your choices and cast your votes. You will find the ballot is quite straightforward and easy to mark. A growing number of members find the user friendly Internet voting option to be very convenient as well as saving postage.

Sierra Club Meeting in Orlando April  
19th

**“Losing It All To Sprawl”**

Light snacks and socializing at 6:45  
PM

Program is from 7:00 - 8:45, 4/19/06

At Harry P. Leu Gardens

1920 N Forest Ave., Orlando FL, 407-  
246-2620

For directions to Leu Gardens visit:

<http://www.leugardens.org/index.htm>

Bill Belleville, an award-winning nature writer, will talk about his new book, *Losing It All to Sprawl: How Progress Ate My Cracker Landscape*. In *Losing It All to Sprawl* Belleville describes how he came to understand and love his historic Cracker farmhouse and “relic” neighborhood in central Florida, even as it was all wiped out from under him. In Florida, one of the nation’s fastest growing states (and where local and state governments encourage growth); balancing use with preservation is an uphill battle. Sprawl spreads into the countryside, consuming not just natural lands but Old Florida neighborhoods and their unique history.

In his newest book, Belleville accounts for the impacts--social, political, natural, personal--that a community in the crosshairs of unsustainable growth ultimately must bear. He also offers Floridians, and anyone facing the blight of urban confusion, the hope that can be found in the rediscovery and appreciation of the natural landscape. Bill Belleville is a veteran author and documentary filmmaker specializing in environmental issues.

For more information contact: Kalina  
cell: 407-619-5908

or email: [kwsierra@hotmail.com](mailto:kwsierra@hotmail.com)

or go to

<http://florida.sierraclub.org/central>

In Memoriam

**Tom Visconti**

Lifetime Sierra Club Member  
and *Timucuan* Underwriter

VOLUSIA-FLAGLER SIERRA  
appreciates the support of its  
*Timucuan* Underwriters

Friends of Bill Gundy

Reid Hughes

BZ Mailing Services, Inc.

Thomas Meachem

The Spruce Creek Garden  
Club

Natalie Barden