



The Timucuan

October-November 2006

Newsletter of the
Volusia-Flagler Sierra Club
P. O. Box 929, Daytona Beach, Florida 32115
www.florida.sierraclub.org/Volusia

The next business meetings of the Volusia-Flagler Sierra Club's **Executive Committee** will be held on **September 27th and October 25th at 5:30 p.m.**, at **Daytona Beach Regional Library (City Island Library Center), 105 E. Magnolia Avenue, Daytona Beach.**

PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER MEETING IN FLAGLER BEACH

**City Commission Meeting Room of Flagler
Beach City Hall, corner of 2nd Street and
South Central Avenue**

WEDNESDAY, October 4th, at 7:00 p.m.

Bruce Jones

The Park Guide from Princess Place Estate, the "Crown Jewel" of Flagler County's Environmentally Sensitive Lands program, will be our speaker in October. Mr. Jones is a past mayor of Flagler Beach and is a highly knowledgeable guide to Flagler County history and ecology.

PROGRAM FOR NOVEMBER MEETING IN DeLAND

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

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

David Rigsby,

landscape architect and manager of the Department of Streets and Grounds at Stetson University and past mayor of DeLand, will discuss the University's Native Plant Initiative and its successful efforts to save water and energy.

In addition, Sierra-endorsed candidates for Volusia County have been invited to each speak briefly to our members at the November meeting.

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 October meeting.
For information, call **Dennis Elster** at **386-943-9415**

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

Flagler/Palm Coast arrangements TBA.

Daytona Beach meets at the Daytona Beach Regional Library (City Island Library Center),
105 E. Magnolia Avenue, Daytona Beach.
For information, call **Marsha Lewis** at **386-258-1605**.

VOTE ON (OR BEFORE) NOVEMBER 7th!!

(See Page 3)

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

New Smyrna Beach

Anne Ross

Bunnell

*Nancy A Joseph
K. Miller*

Edgewater

Kathy Fluharty

Port Orange

*Lloyd Dunham
Rufus Houdyshell
Carl Turgeon
Lorraine Fisher
John Allaben
Dennis Faherty*

Ormond Beach

*Gail Redfield
Gregory Dudley
Barbara Taylor
Kerry Thek
Terry Shaughnessy
Eady Hawes
Cathy Hames
Eileen Osteen*

Daytona Beach

*Suzanne Deleskey
Donna La France
Mary L. Doerr*

DeBary

*James Camuso
Carman Moore
William Clapham
Patricia Murray*

DeLand

*M. Troia
John Boyle*

South Daytona

Jessie Brown

Clermont

*Stuart Chaplan
Logan Williams*

Barberville

Johnny Ferguson

Flagler Beach

Roger Buchanan

Orange City

Marian Gurewitz

Mascotte

Robert Sylvia

Palm Coast

*Frederick Gibb
Jerome Full*

CALL FOR MARINE MONITORS

The next Marine Debris Surveys will be held **Saturday, September 23rd** and **October 21st** 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.

VOTE ON (OR BY*) NOVEMBER 7th!!!

Volusia and Flagler voters face a long ballot on November 7th. To alleviate long lines on Election Day, our supervisors of elections make it easier to vote by absentee ballot, by mail or in person (*any time within 3 weeks prior to Election Day).

If you know anyone who has not registered yet to vote, they can do so until October 10th.

In **Volusia County**, contact the Elections Supervisor (136 North Florida Avenue, DeLand) at **(386) 736-5930, 254-4690, 574-0598 x 5930, 423-3311, (FAX) 740-8850**, or e-mail elections@co.volusia.fl.us. In **Flagler County**, (2729 E. Highway 100, Bldg. 7, Bunnell), phone **(386) 437-7447** or e-mail pborder@flaglerelections.com

AND VOTE GREEN!!

The Volusia-Flagler Sierra Club urges you to vote for the candidates and proposals that our Executive Committee has endorsed, including:

VOLUSIA COUNTY COUNCIL

District 3

Barbara Herrin

Barbara has been a longtime environmental activist from New Smyrna Beach. She co-founded Wetlands Alert, the group that stopped the construction of a Wal-Mart in sensitive wetlands in New Smyrna Beach and spearheaded the effort in 2004 to adopt Urban Growth Boundaries. We highly recommend voting for Barbara in District 3

<http://barbaraherrin.com>

info@barbaraherrin.com

386-427-3175

433 Wildwood Dr.

New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168

District 5

Pat Northey

Pat was previously the At-Large Chair for Volusia County Council. Sierra Club feels she is absolutely the best choice in the District 5 County Council race.

<http://patnorthey.com/>

District 1

Andy Kelly

Andy Kelly is a past member of the Volusia Soil & Water Conservation District. He is an environmentally friendly candidate. He has the experience and knowledge to do an excellent job.

386/736-2639 - rivermon@cfl.rr.com

Report from the Conservation Chair - Alexa Ross

ENVIRONMENTAL RICHES IN VOLUSIA COUNTY

A happy few of us gathered in a classroom of the new Mainland High School to enjoy environmental teacher **Louise Chapman**'s update on 3 outstanding local treasures the School Board has arranged youngsters access to (and wish we were back in high school!). The wonderful 2600-acre wetland Bicentennial Youth Park, not far from the West Volusia landfill on Route 44, is back in service after a fiscal/maintenance hiatus with restored boardwalks, grounds and buildings. Along with otter, black bear and deer, it is now home to the exotic large armored catfish, which bedevil the manatees in Blue Springs. The theory is, that firefighters used Spring water in their operations that contained the invasive beasts, who survived the trip to breed again. The second parcel is Rose Bay/Spruce Creek, where students annually host the public in the spring with learning stations from birdwatching to butterflies and lunch; I have attended for several years and last time, I believe I was the lone member of the public there! (See Armies of One below!) There is a new weather station and bird observation tower. Nine acres of Australian pine have been attacked and 5,000 spartina planted. The wild pigs are digging it!

And Lyonia Preserve at the Deltona Library, the County's scrub jay showcase, is expanding with an outdoor classroom and additional acreage. Don't feed the wildlife!

Register now for **Bonnie Cary**'s(see below) Lyonia Preserve by the Light of the Moon walk October 27, bcary@co.volusia.fl.us

COMMITTEES OF ONE, ARMIES OF ONE

Unlike most of the other environmental groups we support, the Sierra Club has a local presence and local faces. We feel powerful knowing that more than 1200 individuals in the two counties have paid memberships in Sierra. But we are dismayed at the dwindling number who come out to our local meetings. **Mike Thompson** and I have been attending Sierra Club Leadership Development workshops to address the problem. Networking takes work! We need to reach out to our own membership, the friends we haven't met yet, to join us in addressing our problems, appearing before policy-makers, and celebrating the environment. Wouldn't it be great to turn out a green army in times of crisis? The more voices they hear, the more powerful we become. Won't you join us? Call **Mike** at (386) 345-3803 or **Alex** at (386) 761-7002. Let's talk, and organize, and make a difference! We need to develop some effective street theatre for public outreach too, to encourage environmental learning in a light-hearted, entertaining way.

A ROAD SLASHING THE REMAINING WILDLIFE CORRIDOR?

Congressman John Mica basked in the attention of Volusia county and city officials recently as he warned them that a massive road project in Seminole County will dump huge numbers of vehicles on our doorstep in a decade or so. Council previously said thanks but no thanks - twice! - for the "free" feasibility study. Mica, who expects to step to the helm of the Transportation Committee in Washington, warned us of steadily rising prices in land, construction and fuel costs, not to alarm us. Following his logic of prudent fiscal policy, it's best to pave over habitat as fast as we can while it's still "cheap" to do so. (As today, we think \$2.71 a gallon is cheap!) As your Conservation Army of One, I asked the last question of the day, and he kiddingly mistook me for Pat Northey, one of our friends at County Council, now seeking re-election and opposed by the former Mayor of Deltona, a growth and annexation cheerleader. I told Mica I was encouraged to hear him recognize that adding more lanes to highways does not cure congestion. I wanted to remind everyone there of the looming disaster of Global Heating, particularly in our low-lying peninsular state. "We're sitting on the Titanic," I told them. "We really are." Does this issue galvanize you? Check out Sierra's **COOL CITIES** Campaign on the web, at www.sierraclub.org. Celebrate California's commitment to Kyoto Protocols. Banish your incandescents for compact fluorescents. Tell your city and county to get on the bandwagon. Why should dirty technologies still be allowed in the marketplace? Let's rattle our cages! Letters to the Editor!

Continued on Next Page . . .

Report from the Conservation Chair

(Continued)

OUTINGS ON THE WAY OUT?

More than once in the past year, your Committee of One Outings Leader has driven to the outing location and realized with a sinking heart no one else would be coming. Over the years, previous leaders have let their CPR certification lapse. If our group agreed to subsidize some of the \$40 cost of the one-day training, would you consider becoming an outings leader? **Marjorie Byron**, our only other certified leader, has also had outings where no one came (except for me and her grandchildren). She is also involved in the Florida Trail Association outings and periodic triathlons.

That's why it's wonderful that a recent speaker, **Bonnie Cary**, Naturalist with the County's Land Acquisition and Management, has been offering outings to Volusia Forever wild lands. On September 9th I joined a Full Moon Hike at Hickory Bluff, Osteen, by the St. Johns River, and I see another evening astronomy outing coming up, as well as a Spruce Creek Preserve mangroves tour, and wildflowers at the wiregrass prairie (a Native Plant special!) planned through October. Email: bcary@co.volusia.fl.us. New Smyrna Beach and Ponce Inlet are now connected...by a water taxi! In November, let's get onboard with our bicycles and see what there is to see. Let's explore Ponce Inlet beach under the full moon. Let's kayak again like we did last year. Remove invasives at Bicentennial Youth Park. Help us get back the "explore, enjoy" part of Sierra back by expressing your interest in particular outings and coming out to support them. Check out our Group's web-site in October to see what's planned for November. Find the repellent and the walking shoes and get out of the house!

HELP WANTED! PORT ORANGE FAMILY DAY OUTREACH OCTOBER 11-12

We have signed up for a table plus electricity to run and share our wonderful DVDs for the public. We have everything from Sierra Great David Brower to *Kilowatt Ours* to *Six Fairy Tales About Growth in Florida* to *The Truth About Wal-Mart*. We will also feature tie-dyed Spruce Creek Preserve t-shirts, thanks to **Barb Davis** and **Kathy Marsh**. This is again a primo opportunity to gather signatures to our vital county-wide and state-wide efforts, as well as advertise our support for environmental candidates. A few years ago, volunteers got stacks of Urban Growth Boundary or was it Florida Hometown Democracy petitions signed. We find the public welcomes the chance to engage on the important issues. They like to know someone is paying attention to the environment. Who else speaks up? It's up to us, my friend. Please find an hour to join the struggle. Email Alex at alexaber@juno.com.

Another superb opportunity for petition signing is Election Day. Can you give an hour? Commit to a number of petitions? And by the way...

FOLLOW YOUR BLISS - BECOME A FLORIDA MASTER NATURALIST!

The University of Florida has developed three adult education programs on Freshwater Wetlands, Coastal Systems and Upland Habitats. Based at the Agricultural Center in Volusia (no current Flagler offerings) on 44 near I-4, the courses meet 9-4 one day a week for 6 weeks and include field trips and projects. I hope to do the freshwater module in October.

SIERRA SUPPORTS LOCAL CANDIDATES!

Sierra Club has a political action committee pac which contributes to environmentally friendly political candidates and causes in Volusia and Flagler County. Help us save our environment.

Make the check payable to: "Sierra Club Florida Chapter
Political Committee"

Mail the check to:

Don Lieb, Treasurer, Volusia-Flagler Sierra 21 Kingsbridge
Crossing Drive Ormond Beach FL.32174





Volusia/Flagler Sierra Club

An East-Central, Coastal Florida Group

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

