



P.O. Box 216, Bokeelia, FL 33922

A nonprofit tax-deductible organization
dedicated to the preservation of natural lands.

Newsletter

Fall 1990

Big Jim Creek Land Acquisition Update

As you know, we have purchased the first 100+ acre tract of the Big Jim Creek acreage. We are now in the process of raising the funds for the second and third parcels. Although the option-to-buy does not require payment until February and August 1991, respectively, there is some question whether we should go ahead with the purchase sooner in order to save significant dollars in property taxes. The Board of Directors will soon be deciding what to do on this matter. At any rate, we need approximately \$7,000 for each parcel in the very near future. At \$70 an acre, that is only 100 donations per parcel. Spread the word to other concerned friends of the environment and help us reach this goal. In the meantime, we are going to use the upcoming picnic at the Matlacha Park to thank those who made the first purchase possible and invite the media to help kick off our campaign to buy the next tract. William English of Pine Island has offered to match the first five \$100 donations to get things started.

Rick Moore Attends Tampa Meeting of Florida Land Trust Association

On August 25, Rick Moore represented Calusa Land Trust at a meeting of the Florida Land Trust Association. This is a statewide group of local land trusts that has been formed to help promote our goals both locally and at the state level. We were given information on how our trust can propose projects under the recently enacted Preservation 2000 program. Preservation 2000 is a state project, pledged to acquire land worth \$300 million every year for the rest of the decade. The Board of Directors of Calusa Land Trust voted last month to have Rick present three possible projects for this area: (1) York Island, (2) acreage just south of the Big Jim Creek area and, (3) a 300+ acre preserve on Pine Island containing an eagle's nest. Rick brought a video tape of these areas to share with the other members. No word yet on which proposals the Florida Land Trust Association may choose to promote.

Our Second Canoe Trip a Great Success

Despite the ever-present summer heat and a few bugs, 15 adventurers paddled their way through the winding mosquito-ditch maze in the Big Jim Creek area on Saturday, September 8. Everyone met at the Harbor Hideaway in Bokeelia and Ed Chapin and Debi Holden transported canoes and people to the preserve a couple of miles away. A few people put in up near Tropic Isles and they all eventually met up out in the Creek. There was a lot to see and enjoy while they listened to the birds, watched Roseate Spoonbills and explored the salt marshes. And what a special feeling everyone had knowing that the area will be safe from development forever.

CALUSA LAND TRUST CLEANS UP

On Saturday, September 22, six people representing Calusa Land Trust climbed into 3 boats and headed out to the tip of Calusa Island, partially owned by the Trust, to scour the mangroves for trash. Thinking they would only need an hour or so to clean up the area across from two fish houses, they planned to soon split up and move down the beach. But after four hours, they had filled up about 25 bags with hundreds of plastic oil containers, hundreds of styrofoam cups, hundreds of assorted glass bottles and hundreds of other unmentionables too varied to list. They had separated all the aluminum cans into 15 bags of recyclables and still there was more trash to pick up. The deadline was noon and the group was out of trash bags anyway, so back they went, boats overflowing, to deliver their catch. As it turned out, the they had picked a good spot to start, because they collected the most trash of any group on the island. Think if we had had 15 people!

A Fond Farewell

Virginia Miller, a member of our Board of Directors, had to resign last month due to other obligations which will occupy her time. She has contributed a lot as a Board member, sharing her ideas and coming to many events to help out. We will miss her input and enthusiasm and hope that she will continue to participate in various outings and celebrations. Good luck, Virginia, and thanks for everything. See you at the picnic!

P I C N I C P L A N N E D - C O M E O N E C O M E A L L

As mentioned above, we are having a potluck picnic in October, on Saturday the 20th, at the Matlacha Community Park. Everyone should try to come around noon. Rick will be presenting a copy of the Big Jim Creek deed to everyone who bought an acre and there will also be a large poster with everyone's name on it. For anyone who still has a commemorative T-shirt coming to them, Jennifer Holloway, the artist, will be on hand to make sure you get yours. Each one is hand-painted and numbered by the artist. Of course, we will be taking new orders as well. (Call Rick if you cannot make it and would like to make other arrangements to get your shirt.)

Rick will be bringing the painting of the eagles, donated by Ione Roone, which is being raffled off in November, so there's still time to buy a chance for \$1 or 6 for \$5.

We will meet in the picnic shelter and if everyone brings a dish, or something to share, there should be a good variety and plenty to go around. Someone is donating some briquets, so if you want to bring hamburgers or hot dogs to grill, that would be great. Calusa Land Trust will be buying sodas and selling them at cost for your convenience. Please bring your own table service. Any questions, call Rick at 283-1206 or Alison at 997-5442 (days).

We do need help setting up in the morning. If anyone can pitch in, please let Rick know. We are going to put up our banner and bring our map in preparation for some hoped-for media coverage. Volleyball was also suggested and if we can arrange for a net, we should have some good games. Hope you can come. Bring a friend!

Remember - This is going to be our MAIN KICK-OFF EVENT to raise the funds for the 2nd Big Jim Creek tract. So spread the word if you can.

CAN YOU HELP?

On Saturday, October 7, the Earth Day Coalition will sponsor a free concert at Centennial Park in Fort Myers from noon until 10 PM. Calusa Land Trust has been invited to set up a booth along with many other environmental groups. Can you spare some time that day? Call Rick if you need more details.

Silvia Takes on a New Project

Silvia Godin Moore wants to collect recipes for a P.I. Cookbook and would like everyone to donate one or more of their favorites. The name of each contributor will accompany each dish. Once this book is printed, it will be sold to raise funds. All recipes will be accepted but seafood & tropical fruit ideas are especially welcome. The address: P.O.Box 563, SJC, 33956

A NOTE ABOUT OUR MEMBERSHIPS: Many of the members that have joined us this last year have included a variety of businesses and organizations from Pine Island and even from other areas in Lee County. Here is a list of these groups so that everyone can see that our support has come from a wide range of interested parties:

Cherry Estates Property Owners Association	St. James City
Cocoloba Chapter, Native Plant Society	Fort Myers
Dale Schneider, Inc.	Bokeelia
Greater Pine Island Civic Association	Pine Island Center
Johnson & Sawyer Insurance, Inc.	Fort Myers
Marine Biology Club, Cape Coral High School	Cape Coral
Museum of the Islands	Pine Island Center
National Honor Society, Cape Coral High School	Cape Coral
P.I. Chapter, Organized Fisherman of Florida	Bokeelia
St. James City Kiwanis Club	St. James City
St. James Marina	St. James City
Sunfighter Canvas	St. James City

MANY THANKS MANY THANKS MANY THANKS MANY THANKS MANY THANKS MANY THANKS

In our first newsletter, we thanked many of the people who have helped make our efforts successful this year. In this issue, we want to thank some of those who were not mentioned last time.

To Mac and Helen O'Rourke McClary, who hosted one of our early meetings at their Matlacha home and treated us to a fine feast. Helen is also a special advisor to Calusa Land Trust and contributed to our brochure. She has worked with many organizations, including Project Hope and the national Better Business Bureau.

To Rich Larkin who provided his copier for our use early on, opened his home for committee meetings, helped write our brochure, and drafted our option contract on the Big Jim Creek property.

To Mike Disch for copying, providing advice, and sharing information on taxes and real estate.

To those who helped out at various events and oops we didn't mention last time: at the Seafood Festival - Bobbi Shanks and Kate Fitzgerald... and at Earth Day - Rick, Silvia, Laurie Boswell, Virginia, Anne Atteberry and at the 4th of July - Rick, Ed Chapin, Silvia, Debi Holden and Kate... We definitely would be hard pressed to make these events a success for Calusa Land Trust if everyone had not pitched in like they did.

To the Museum of the Islands and the Pine Island Library for allowing us to use their building for our meetings, and to the American Legion for the use of their hall.

AND to every single one of you who have generously donated the funds that were needed to keep this organization running and to purchase the land that we now hold for preservation.

MEMBERSHIPS

_____ \$15 Individual	_____ \$70	Donor: "I want to buy an acre for an eagle!"
_____ \$25 Family	_____ \$86	Donor: "I want to buy an acre for an eagle & receive a T-shirt!"
_____ \$50 Donor		
_____ \$50 Business/ Organization	_____ \$100	Contributor
	_____ \$500	Patron or Business Patron
_____ Other	_____ \$1000	Benefactor

Anyone donating \$86 or more, please indicate your preferences below:

_____ I would very much like a hand-painted T-shirt. My size is _____ (small, medium, large, x-large) (Please give a phone number and local address, if possible, so we can contact you when the shirt is ready.)

_____ I do not wish a T-shirt and would like the funds placed back into the land acquisition program.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Date _____

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

Donations are tax-deductible (except \$16.00 if a T-shirt is ordered).



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