

December 1994

Warm holiday greetings to everyone! This brief newsletter is in anticipation of our 1995 annual meeting which will be held on Saturday, January 28th at 1:00 p.m., at the American Legion Hall. The hall is located on the east side of Stringfellow Boulevard just north of St. James City. Mark your calendars and attend if you can as we will have the opportunity to update our members on the past years' activities and hear what our members have to say about the future of our organization.

Some of the noteworthy items to be discussed include:

- ◆ the latest details about our title dispute with the federal government over portions of McCardle Island
- ◆ the status of our negotiations for land for a canoe launch into our Big Jim Creek Preserve
- ◆ the results of Lee County's controlled burn of the vegetation at the Eagle Preserve
- ◆ a report on the continuing dispute over pedestrian access to the St. Jude Trail
- ◆ a report on the excellent osprey presentation made by Mark "Bird" Westall at the Greater Pine Island Civic Association building, and more . . .

Most recently, the 2nd Annual Poker Run, sponsored by the Pine Island Boat Club on December 11, was a huge success, despite rain and lightning. First prize was a whopping \$1,100, but the real winner was Calusa Land Trust which received \$3,100! There are so many people to thank for all their help. We will have more information on this event and plans for the future at the annual meeting, plus a report in our next full newsletter.

The nominating committee has renominated the following directors whose terms are expiring (all terms are for two years): Ed Chapin, Norm Gowan, Rich Larkin, and Don Shontz. The committee has also renominated Bud House for a full term (he was recently appointed by the board to fill a vacancy), and nominated Peter Ordway to a vacant seat. Additional nominations will taken from the floor during the annual meeting.

As usual, if there is an asterisk by your name on the mailing label, it has been one year since you renewed your membership. We hope to see many of you at our annual meeting!!!