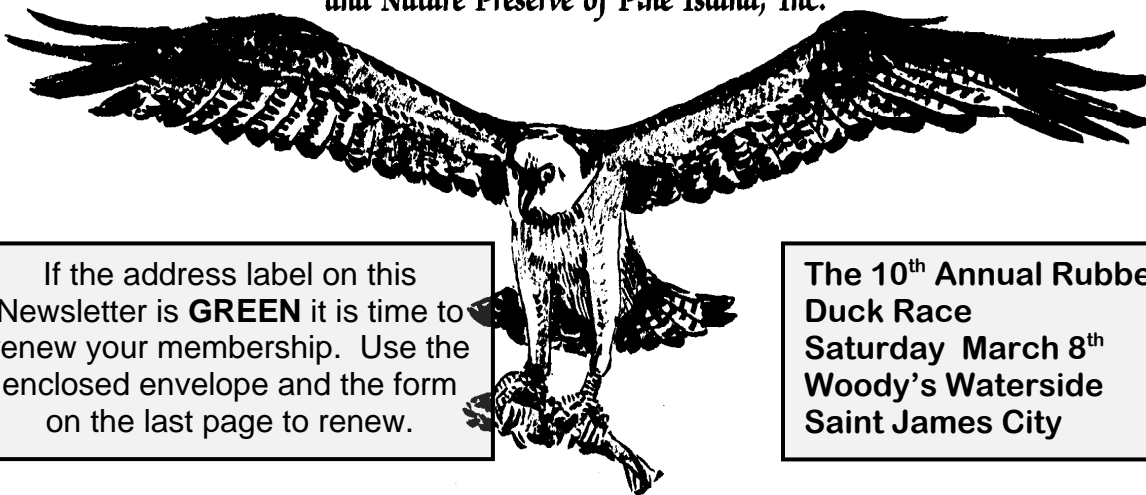


Calusa Land Trust

and Nature Preserve of Pine Island, Inc.



If the address label on this Newsletter is **GREEN** it is time to renew your membership. Use the enclosed envelope and the form on the last page to renew.

The 10th Annual Rubber Duck Race
Saturday March 8th
Woody's Waterside
Saint James City

Newsletter #57

Founded 1976

February 2008

www.calusalandtrust.org

President's Message

by Harold Bruner (464.2436)

CLT Board Renames St Jude Trail Area

Long-time board member **Norm Gowan**, known by many as The Big Duck, passed away on December 30. Norm contributed a great deal to the CLT and served for years as both membership chair and fundraising chair. When



the board met to discuss how his duties would be taken over, it was surprising just how much Norm had been doing all those years.

The popular St Jude Trail was one of Norm's favorite preserves. For years

the entrance to the trail on Stabile Road was not owned by us. An easement allowed us to cross onto our land. Norm always encouraged the CLT to buy the land that would tie it all together. We accomplished that in October 2005. At our last meeting the board took official action to rename this area the Norm Gowan Trailhead Vista Preserve in honor of Norm's years of dedicated service.

2008 Annual Meeting

by Phil Rosenberg (283.3871)

The 2008 annual meeting of the Calusa Land Trust and Nature Preserve of Pine Island was held at 1:00PM on Sunday, January 20. It was a chilly day at Fritts Park but the friendship of the 85 members attending kept everyone warm.

The meeting began with a moment of silence in remembrance of **Bud House** and **Norm Gowan**. This was followed by reports from all of the Committee Chairs.

Because of its accomplishments on Pine Island the Lee County Conservation 20/20 program was honored at this year's annual meeting. Since its inception in 1989 the program has purchased 11 properties on Pine Island totaling 1,320+ acres at a cost of \$14,307,400. County Commission



President Ray Judah attended along with **Lynda Thompson, Tylar Samuels** and **Alex LePera**.

Commissioner Bob Janes, who represents Pine Island and who has been a staunch supporter of 20/20, had out-of-town commitments and was unable to attend. The CLT looks forward to many more years of working with 20/20 to preserve additional lands on Pine Island.

Last on the agenda were the elections. The following Board Members were elected for another two years: **Alison Ackerman, Brenda Anderson, Harold Bruner, Brian Cotterill, Liz Donely, Bill Spikowski** and **Ruby Woodhead**. In addition **Sonny Koutsoutis** was elected to complete the term of Bud House and **Phil Rosenberg** will complete the term of Norm Gowan.

The meeting was short and soon everyone was enjoying hot soup and a fish fry provided by **J.D. Holloway** and the folks from the **Waterfront Restaurant**. You should all plan to attend next year.

PURPOSE OF THE CALUSA LAND TRUST:

“... to acquire, hold, and manage environmentally sensitive lands, archaeological and historic sites, and other natural lands; to encourage education and research in the fields of conservation and preservation; to establish nature preserves or other protected areas to be used for scientific, educational, aesthetic, or passive recreational purposes; to cooperate with other entities having similar or related objectives; and to engage in any other activity relating to the furtherance of the foregoing objectives.”

From the articles of incorporation of the Calusa Land Trust (Article II)

Fund Raising

by Ron Wesorick (283.7249)

The 10th annual Rubber Duck race will be held on Saturday March 8 at Woody's Waterside in Saint James City. As many know Norm Gowan was a founder of this exciting Land Trust fund raiser so this years race will be dedicated to Norm. Pink Wesorick my favorite Duck ticket seller reports that sales are going well. Winn Dixie has allowed us to have a table out front to sell duck tickets.

Many great prizes have been donated, some for Duck Race winners and some will be auctioned off. We need volunteers for a couple of hours to help

with games, selling raffle tickets or selling food. If you can help, contact Ron or Pink at 283.7249.

The 100 days to \$100K fund raising effort is still under way. We are a little less than half way to our goal while we are about 70 days into the effort. We are trying to raise a little extra money to refill our accounts after the land clearing project at the Norm Gowan Trailhead Vista Preserve.

Here is another interesting way to help the Land Trust. Recently one of our members celebrated her 50th birthday. She had a little party and asked that the guests not bring gifts but rather they should contribute to the Land Trust. It worked because a half a dozen contributions were made in tribute to our member's birthday. What a great way to help the Land Trust.

Membership

by Phil Rosenberg (283.3871)

We have finally jumped over the 500 hurdle in paid up memberships. 506 members are current in their dues. There are 411 members who have not made a contribution to the Land Trust in more than a year. If your address label is "GREEN" it is time to consider renewing your membership. An envelope is included and the back page of the Newsletter is a renewal form.

Remember that besides contributing money, all members are welcome to contribute time and energy to the Land Trust. We have work parties at our many preserves and fund raising events all year round. We appreciate help on any of these activities.



by Ed Chapin (392.0090)
Chief Calusa Land Trust Ranger
and Gracie, the Ghost Writing Gopher Tortoise

Ranger Work Parties

On January 5th we had a great turnout for the work party at Fritts Park setting up tents and preparing the park for the Calusa Land Trust's Annual Meeting and Rummage Sale. We also appreciate the hard work donated by our volunteer rangers in January setting up Fritts Park for the Memorial Service for our irreplaceable "Big Duck" Norm Gowen. All these events went very well, thanks to our helpful volunteers. A big thanks to **Shirley House** for being in charge of the rummage sale. Both Shirley and her husband, our much missed Bud House, have been priceless assets to the Calusa Land Trust for decades. Shirley is passing the baton of running the rummage sale off to a new crew for 2009. However, we think she'll show up next year anyway. Somebody has to keep things organized!

The first Ranger work party in February was on the 2nd and about ten of us took down the tents and put Fritts Park back to normal.

On February 9th we had a Ranger work party at the Dean Easement in Bokeelia. This is a conservation easement on private property. It was the first opportunity the CLT had to begin restoration of this gorgeous easement which runs along Charlotte Harbor, Jug Creek and Shell Cut which separates the easement from our Calusa Island Preserve. We had 14 volunteers who worked really hard for three hours. We were able to eradicate just about all the Australian Pines, Brazilian Peppers and picked up 10 garbage bags of trash. A follow up visit will be scheduled for this site.

The next work party will be on April 5th at Kreie Preserve & Peter Ordway Tropical Hammock in Bokeelia. Watch your e-mail for details on where to meet and if you are not on my Ranger e-mail list, e-mail me at ecalusaed@aol.com and ask to be put on the Volunteer Ranger list, or to be put on the Peter Ordway Mangrove Canoe/Kayak Adventures list, or both. See the "Events Calendar" on the web at www.calusalandtrust.org for the work party schedule for all of 2008.

Peter Ordway Mangrove Canoe/Kayak Adventures

Our last Peter Ordway Mangrove Adventure Tour was on February 10th at the Kreie Preserve and the Peter Ordway Tropical Hammock Preserve in Bokeelia. These Preserves show how beautiful and interesting a tropical hammock formation can be, located in the midst of mangrove islands. We were honored to have **Mrs. Pat Ordway** along with us.

This tour was the inaugural trip for the two new 17' canoes generously donated by Peter Ordway's cousin, Tom Ordway. We had a big turnout of 24 participants



for this adventure. We braved low tides and a muddy

landing for the opportunity to paddle to wonderful sites on a gorgeous day. A great time was had by all and generous donations were put into the CLT's coffers.

The next Peter Ordway Mangrove Adventure is scheduled for Sunday, March 23rd touring our Back Bay Preserve in St. James City. This will be a noon to 3pm trip.

Our April Peter Ordway Mangrove Adventure will be on Saturday, April 19th, noon to 3pm at the Big Jim Creek Preserve in Bokeelia. Watch your e-mails for details on where to meet for these trips. If you are not on my e-mail list, e-mail me at ecalusaed@aol.com and ask to be put on the Peter Ordway Mangrove Canoe/Kayak Adventures list, or the Volunteer Ranger list or both!

Reservations are required for the Peter Ordway Mangrove Adventure Tours. Everybody is welcome and we have a limited number of spaces available in our CLT canoes/kayaks for those of you who don't have your own "boats". First come, first served, so let me know if you plan to come along and if you need a space. For more information beep me at 239-392-0090, leave a number and I will return your call. See you on March 23rd at Back Bay and thank you all for your continued support of the Mangrove Adventures!

P.S. Gracie the Ghost Writing Gopher Tortoise says Hi and Thank You to all the Volunteers and Paddlers.

TOURS & TRAILS REPORT

by Brenda Anderson (283.1878)

CALUSA LAND TRUST ADDS TO FLEET

Two new 17-foot canoes complete with all the gear were added to the Calusa Land Trust's fleet of boats thanks to a donation by **Tom Ordway**. Tom donated the funds for the purchase of the canoes as a memorial to his cousin, **Peter Ordway**, who was a major force on the CLT Board during his life. The fleet of canoes and kayaks are available for use on the Peter Ordway Mangrove Adventure Tours that are offered each month throughout the winter season to residents and visitors of Pine Island.

Paula Stuller of Estero River Outfitters, a long-time supporter of all manner of charitable causes in southwest Florida, provided the canoes and gear to the CLT for a great price.

The maiden voyage of the two boats was, appropriately, on the February 10th tour to the Peter Ordway Tropical Hammock in the Kreie Preserve. **Pat Ordway**, Peter's widow, together with a



large group of 24 participants, paddled from Jug Creek Cottages in Bokeelia to the preserve, exploring the surrounding

waters and mangrove islands. More information about the CLT preserves, canoe & kayak trails, and the tours can be found on the CLT website www.calusalandtrust.org.

Merchandise Committee by Gloria Andrews (283.5020)

The Merchandise Committee is working on an exciting year. We have staffed many more venues on the Island this year with plenty of "Merchandise". "House Parties" are being booked. Give some thought to hosting a "Fuzzy Mango Clothesline" house party of your own. Schedule the party during the season to help fill the CLT coffers. The host or hostess can earn a free outfit for meeting a sales goal at his or her party.

The CLT fishing shirts have been big sellers and we will have plenty again this year. We always welcome volunteers for sewing, sorting and selling.

The Wish List Thank you for the donations! by Harold Bruner

In the last issue I mentioned the need for a used boat and outboard motor to help in managing some of our preserves. Two people stepped up. **Al Joy** and **Phil Buchanan** each donated a working boat, motor and trailer. Our plans are to keep both for our intended use. Phil also donated a dinghy in very good condition. It will be used for fundraising as a raffle prize in the upcoming Rubber Duck Race. Thanks to Al and Phil for their generous donations.

**CALUSA LAND TRUST & NATURE PRESERVE
OF PINE ISLAND, INC.**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

REVENUES, GAINS & OTHER SUPPORT		
Memberships & Donations	\$	37,096
Donated Property		79,680
Interest & Dividend Income		8,585
Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Securities		1,389
Gain on Sale of Property		2,670
Fundraising & Special Events:		
Revenues	\$	20,087
Direct Expenses		(304)
Calusa Clothesline & T-Shirt Revenues:		19,783
Sales Proceeds		5,480
Purchases		(4,160)
Total Support & Revenue		<u>150,523</u>
EXPENSES		
Land Stewardship Expenses:		
Contracted Exotic Removal, Trailhead Vista Preserve		39,900
Mowing & Other		5,514
Administrative Expenses:		
Postage		1,006
Printing		1,111
Insurance		3,290
Conferences & Annual Meeting		1,751
Other		1,380
Land Acquisition Costs:		
Contributions to Lee County Conservation 20/20		35,000
Matching Funds for Land Purchases		79,680
Donated Land - Jarmoszuk Transitional Wetlands		372
Closing Costs - Jarmoszuk Transitional Wetlands		3,739
Other Costs		118,791
Total Expenses		<u>172,743</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets		(22,220)
NET ASSETS		
Net Assets, October 1, 2006		1,114,521
Capitalized Land Acquisition Costs		80,052
Prior Period Adjustment to Carrying Value of Preserved Land		268,753
Net Assets, September 30, 2007		<u>\$ 1,441,106</u>

**CALUSA LAND TRUST & NATURE PRESERVE
OF PINE ISLAND, INC.**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

ASSETS		
Cash	\$	171,103
Interest Bearing Accounts		
Property		
Preserved Land, at Cost if Purchased or Fair Market Value		1,270,003
at Date of Donation		
Total Assets		<u>\$ 1,441,106</u>
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
None	\$	0
Net Assets		
Donor Restricted:		
Calusa Canal Fund		3,590
Property Fund:		
Preserved Land		1,270,003
Board Designated:		
Project X Fund	\$	7,578
Land Management Fund		38,529
20/20 Matching Funds for Land Purchases		32,500
Boardwalk Maintenance Fund		5,872
Easement Defense Fund		850
Endowment Fund		60,401
Undesignated - General Fund		145,730
Total Net Assets		<u>21,783</u>
Total Liabilities & Net Assets		<u>\$ 1,441,106</u>

**CALUSA LAND TRUST AND NATURE PRESERVE
OF PINE ISLAND, INC.**

2008 Board of Directors

Ackerman, Alison (2008-2009) alison@spikowski.com	337-5586
Anderson, Brenda (2008-2009) Tours & Trails Chair Brenda1040@hotmail.com	283-1878
Bruner, Harold (2008-2009) President, Land Acquisition Chair hdbruner@embarqmail.com	Cell: 464-2436
Chapin, Ed (2007-2008) Land Stewardship Chair ecalusaed@aol.com	Pager: 392-0900
Cotterill, Brian (2008-2009) briancotterill@embarqmail.com	283-1876
Culver, Joan (2007-2008) Annual Meeting Chair joanculverjoan@netscape.net	Cell: 281-3866
Donley, Liz (2008-2009) Grant Chair lizdonley@embarqmail.com	283-2518
Koutsoutis, Sonja J. 'Sonny' (2008) Membership Co-Chair SonnyKout@aol.com	283-4980
Ott, Judy (2007-2008) judyott@embarqmail.com	283-1876
Rosenberg, Phil (2008) Membership Co-Chair joanandphil@earthlink.net	283-3871
Spikowski, Bill ((2008-2009) Treasurer/Gov/Business Manager bill@spikowski.com	334-8866
Wesorick, Ron (2007-2008) Vice President/Fund Raising Chair wesorick@umich.edu	283-7249 Cell: 292-9788
Woodhead, Rubye ((2008-2009) Secretary/Historian rubyew5@embarqmail.com	283-1288
Venesky, Donna (2007-2008) dvenesky@comcast.net	Cell: 849-6300
<u>Non-Board Chairs</u>	
Andrews, Gloria Merchandise Chair Gand9053@aol.com	283-5020

_____ \$ 15 Individual Member _____ \$100 Contributor
_____ \$ 25 Family Member _____ \$500 Patron
_____ \$ 50 Donor _____ \$1000 Benefactor

_____ \$ 50 Plunk-a-Plank
(fill in lettering) _____

CREDIT CARD #: **Visa or MasterCard only**

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EXPIRES: _____ / _____

Your Name: _____

Sponsor: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Alt Phone _____

Second Address: _____

Second City, State, Zip: _____

E-mail address _____

A COPY OF THE CALUSA LAND TRUST'S OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE STATE OF FLORIDA'S DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING 1-800-435-7352 (TOLL-FREE FROM WITHIN FLORIDA). OUR REGISTRATION NUMBER IS SC-03439. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE OF FLORIDA. FULL FINANCIAL DETAILS, INCLUDING FEDERAL TAX RETURNS, CAN BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING THE LAND TRUST'S TREASURER AT 239-334-8866 DURING WORKING HOURS. THE CALUSA LAND TRUST NEVER EMPLOYS PROFESSIONAL FUNDRAISERS; 100% OF YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE RETAINED BY THE CALUSA LAND TRUST.

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

