



### Sep 23rd MEETING

The Woman's Club of DeLand  
128 West Michigan Ave.

6:30 PM Mix and Mingle  
7:00 PM Short Meeting

#### GIMME GREEN

A film that examines our love affair  
with turf and looks at some of the  
alternatives.

Wheelchair accessible, public welcome.

### LAKE BERESFORD PARK

One of the best kept secrets of this summer is the opening of the new trail that goes from the parking lot at Lake Beresford Park to the entry gate of Blue Springs Park in Orange City. The trail starts by going under the RR tracks and winding through the trees and up and down hills for almost 3 miles. It's blacktop and smooth enough for roller skates. We ride our bicycles, some people walk. There are benches and trash cans along the way. So pump up those tires on the old 10 speed, dust off those in-line skates or just take a walk. It's a beautiful trail. You'll be glad you did.

Ed Sherman

### BIRDS!!

That's what Audubon's all about – here's a chance to build your birding skills—by getting out and looking around, and to be with other birders just for the fun of it—along with helping with one of the largest studies of birds and their habits ever taken.

It's the **Fall Migration Count**. It takes place Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. Sharpen your skills, help others and learn from them. All levels of expertise invited—eyes and ears are all it takes—other team members can help identify. Call John Eggert at 736-6922 and leave a message to get on a team.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### MAKE IT, BAKE IT, GROW IT !!!!

Now is the time to plan your donations for the November 25<sup>th</sup> meeting and auction. Start your plantings or crafts early. We need to make this our most successful auction ever.

#### AUDUBON ASSEMBLY

The Plantation Golf Resort  
Crystal River  
October 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>

**Register by Sep 23<sup>rd</sup> and pay only \$115**  
Includes all receptions, meals, programs and workshops  
[www.audubonofflorida.org](http://www.audubonofflorida.org)

Rooms start at \$102 until 9/23  
800-632-6262

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope you had a nice summer with lots of bird sightings and no water issues. As I write this, the St. Johns River is still on the rise and I hope that the flooding doesn't get any worse.

Your board has been very busy planning the coming programs, outings and goals for this year. Make sure you attend the meetings and outings as they should prove to be very interesting.

We will be voting on a motion made at the board meeting to request that WVAS fund up to 35 Audubon Adventures Kits with the expectation that a portion of the money will be reimbursed by donations.

Karyn & I had a meeting with Volusia County officials regarding developing a new gopher tortoise rehab center. We are hoping to help with this worthwhile project and we will give you details at the meeting.

You are welcome to join us at the Audubon Assembly in Crystal River Oct. 23 to 25. It is being held at the Plantation Golf Resort & Spa. This will be a wonderful event where you can take birding trips, attend meetings on climate change and conservation issues. You will meet other members from around the state that have many of the same environmental concerns.

I hope to see you at our September meeting and please note that it will NOT be a supper meeting but refreshments will be served after the program.

Arnette Sherman, Co-President

W  
E  
L  
C  
O  
M  
E  
N  
E  
W  
M  
E  
M  
B  
E  
R  
S

Robert & Teresa Apgar  
Paul Bondinell  
Melissa Borghorst  
Adrian Bozzi  
Marjorie Byron  
Karen Carney  
Elaine Craft  
Maureen Fitzpatrick  
Bill Fletcher  
Zinia Franklin  
Margaret Goldschneider  
William Gray  
Jeannie Harvey  
George Heller  
Deb Hibdon  
Joan Hogan  
Melissa Holyfield  
Robert Jeffrey  
Susan Marks  
Dave Moore  
Belinda Phillips  
Elizabeth Picard  
Harriet Roepke  
Jenna Sabatini  
Jean Simon  
Lee Ann Stewart  
Lee Ann Swallows  
Mr Tartagliano  
Kenneth Wegman  
Scott Weiss  
Coby Wellshear



Gopher Tortoise by Arnette Sherman

## AUDUBON ADVENTURES

In the 2007-08 school year, we sponsored 27 classrooms. 20 of those classrooms were sponsored by individual members. One of our goals is to give every fourth and fifth grade teacher in our membership area the opportunity to participate in the *Audubon Adventures* program.

The following elementary schools are in our area: Blue Lake, Freedom, Friendship, George Marks, McInnis, Orange City, Pierson, Seville, Starke, Timbercrest, Volusia Pines and Woodward Avenue. (The other eight schools in Deltona, DeBary, Enterprise and Osteen are covered by Seminole Audubon.)

You may request to sponsor a particular classroom. The cost is \$45.65 this year, and we would like to increase the number of classrooms. We are asking our members and the community for support. If \$45.65 is too much for you, send \$5 or \$10. Please help us make our goal a reality by sending a check to the West Volusia Audubon Society, marked for *Audubon Adventures*. Send it to: P.O. Box 1268, DeLand, FL 32721-1268 and feel great for making environmental education for our local children possible!

“Your enthusiasm for environmental education is what keeps this program going, so thank you for all your wonderful support!”

Donna Reynolds,  
Education Chairperson

## Water, Water, Everywhere—And Not a Drop To Drink!

*Karyn Hoffman, Conservation Chair*

We’re looking forward to seeing everyone back again at our first meeting in September (be sure to bring along your summer birding stories)! This year, there is a theme running through many of our programs and conservation efforts – WATER. In a state blessed with so many rivers, lakes and springs, we are facing water shortages brought on by drought and inefficient use of this precious resource.

Much of the potable water in our state is used for two primary purposes—irrigation and energy. Every time you turn on a light or use electricity, water is involved in the process of electrical generation. Non-agricultural irrigation of lawns using potable water is another primary drain of this resource. In fairness, the grass itself isn’t the culprit as much as it is those who are in charge of its maintenance. Over-watering, fertilizers and pesticides transform potable water into a toxic liquid which gets washed out into our rivers, lakes and streams. These runoffs can cause algal blooms and create oxygen deficits in both fresh and salt water (known as dead zones), and harm eco-systems.

Several of the programs this year will look at aspects of water issues and we will also try to keep the membership up to date on our efforts to participate in solutions to water conservation. Over the summer, WVAS joined Audubon of Florida in opposing withdrawal of surface waters from the St. Johns and Ocklawaha Rivers by sending letters to the SJRWMD,

the Volusia County Council and various elected officials. The response given by SJRWMD to these types of letters has indicated that while they believe we need to utilize more water conservation practices, the withdrawal of surface waters will be both a necessary and inevitable step in Florida’s water management.

Meanwhile, Audubon and other environmental groups statewide have also been fighting the Niagara Bottling Company’s attempts to obtain a permit for a new water bottling plant in Lake County. Opponents have cited that Niagara’s consumptive use permits for the water should take into account the electricity that will be used at the plant (remember—electricity production requires water use), the production of ever more plastic bottles (which most folks won’t recycle), and have questioned what monetary compensation the county would receive. Others have pointed out that the real fight is the water could be used to irrigate the homes continuing to be built in Lake County and the city of Groveland. Still others point out the jobs this plant would create and that the issue of wasting water shouldn’t be focused on a bottling plant, but on lax water conservation practices which are rarely enforced in our state.

At our first meeting, we will be viewing the twenty-minute film “Gimme Green,” which examines our love affair with turf and looks at some of the alternatives. Another presentation will offer a brief overview of Low Impact Development and explain how individuals can make a real difference in energy and

water conservation. Many LID techniques will be utilized in the Restoration development in Edgewater, and have been used in other communities in Florida.

As Conservation Chair of West Volusia Audubon, I am pleased to represent our organization on the new Green Ribbon Citizen Advisory Panel for Volusia County. This panel meets monthly and is open to the public (see the Volusia.org website for more details or contact me). We will be re-examining the County’s minimum environmental standards and providing recommendations for changes to the County Council.

In parting, I’d like to remind everyone who doesn’t recycle that it’s never too late to begin! I’m amazed at the small amount of actual “trash” we generate in our household. All our paper, cans, plastic and bottles get recycled, with any plastic bags going back to Publix. Our County actually makes money from these recycling programs, so you’re helping both the environment and the county’s finances!

We’re looking forward to another year of fun, education and conservation in our community! Please come and join us for our first meeting of the year in September!

### **INJURED BIRD?**

Contact a Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator:

Kathy Paynter	386-738-2589
Kathy’s E-Mail	<a href="mailto:kep@cfl.rr.com">kep@cfl.rr.com</a>
Elaine Wadler	386-228-0065