

Florida Fish and Wildlife News



Florida Wildlife Federation

Keeping the Wild in Florida since 1936!

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Volume 28, Issue 2

Affiliated with the National Wildlife Federation

May 2014

2013 FWF Photo Contest

FWF is pleased to announce the winners of the 2013 photo contest. This year, we were grateful to have David Moynahan of Tallahassee as our judge for the contest. He is an excellent photographer and a member of the Federation. Thank you to all of the photographers who entered and to David for taking the time to review the over 1,000 photos that were entered. You will find other winning photos from the contest throughout FFWN.



Overall Winner:
"Swallow-tailed Kite" by Tim Harrell (Everglades National Park, Florida)

Madeira Beach Fundamental K-8 School Celebrates Statewide Award

By Pat Pearson
FWF Habitats Coordinator

On Earth Day, Madeira Beach Fundamental K-8 School included an award presentation ceremony to mark winning the Florida Wildlife Federation's 5th Annual Kids' Habitat Contest. A framed certificate was presented to Nina Nicholson, Media Specialist, along with Bill Droke, 5th Grade teacher, and 5th grade students by FWF Youth Conservation Director, Brianna Jones (far right), presented the award.



FWF's Youth Conservation Director, Brianna Jones (far right), presented the award.

conservation Director, Brianna "Bri" Jones. Miss Jones also brought the students a Horned Owl puppet and several nature books for the school library as mementos of the day.

MADEIRA BEACH *con't* page 9

Everglades Coalition Day FWF at the Capitol



Above, members of the Coalition with Senator Darren Soto. Martha Musgrove (far right), FWF Southern Regional Director, led the FWF team.

Below, a picture after meeting with Representative Alan Williams.



VOTE YES ON 1
November 4, 2014

See the back page for details on the 20th Anniversary Celebration of FWF's Southwest Florida office and the 77th Annual Conservation Awards Banquet, June 21, 2014 at the Naples Hilton.

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE

by Jenny Brock



Fruits of our Labor

Now that spring is in full swing, I hope you are having as many beautiful visitors to your garden as I have to mine! This spring has been so busy that I haven't had time to shop for a variety of seeds for my feathered friends yet. The birds come in large numbers, many sizes and a wonderful array of colors. I feel the need to apologize to them for only serving black oil sunflower seeds and safflower seeds that are left over from winter. They don't seem to mind, but I do plan to add a few others right away! Since the goldfinches left a few weeks ago my feeders have been visited by the turquoise col-

ored Indigo Bunting, denim colored blue gross beak, rose-breasted gross beak, and, of course, the ever present chickadees, titmice, red-bellied sapsucker, mourning doves and cardinals. Two of the nesting boxes are occupied by blue bird couples and the hummingbirds are back showing off their acrobatics.

This spring was also punctuated with an abundance of colors of native azaleas all over the woods and river swamps. I am so lucky to have many of them blooming in my own garden.

Just when I wonder if all the work and worry over protecting our valuable wetlands and water resources is worth it, we get a beautiful spring like this one, filled with gorgeous colors and songs compliments of our blooms and birds. Those always serve as a reminder that something that we are doing IS working and we know that we can't slow down. There are of thousands acres and



hundreds of species out there waiting for us to care for and protect. The Florida Wildlife Federation team is on the job! Join us!

Jenny Brock

IN MEMORIAM

We received many thoughtful donations in memory of Tom and Naomi Shirley.

by Kylie Naylor

by Robert and Linda Robinson

by William Sirola

by Bernadine Brown

by Cynthia Kern

by Nikki Noffsinger

by Darrell and Teri Trippe

by Tara Hardy and Family

by Dorothy Schuld-Johnson

by Eduardo Poblano

by John Adornato, III

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by Thomas and Alethea Sutherland

by Richard Carroll

by Mr. & Mrs. Fred Phillips

by Scott Brown and Tamara Shumate Brown

by Senecia Mengers

by Doris Hodges

The Federation appreciated receiving these generous gifts. We express our deepest sympathy to family and friends of the Shirleys.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Manley Fuller



Dear Friends of FWF,

I wanted to give you exciting news about some of the Florida Wildlife Federation's current top priorities. Key is passage of Amendment 1 on November 4, 2014! This is the opportunity of a lifetime to provide critical, long-term funding to further the cause of conservation of Florida waters and landscapes, provide nature-based recreation as well as habitat restoration and management. So if you are a Florida

voter, please vote YES on AMENDMENT 1 in November and encourage your friends and colleagues to do so as well. Amendment 1 is good for Florida's environment, its economy and keeping the "wild" in Florida, which Florida Wildlife Federation has been doing since 1936. If you would like to help the campaign directly by volunteering or making a financial contribution, please visit www.voteyeson1fl.org. If you would like to directly support FWF's work on behalf of Amendment 1, you may also contribute to the Federation at www.fwfonline.org or by mailing your donation to FWF, PO Box 6870, Tallahassee, FL 32314.

I wanted to let you know that Florida Wildlife Federation has been active in its work with National Wildlife Federation (NWF) and our other many Affiliate partners across the nation. We submitted policy resolutions concerning Coastal and Floodplain Policy Reform, better policies addressing the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease in deer and other cervids and regarding Marine Forage Fish Conservation. All of these resolutions were passed through the committee and NWF convention process. We also were co-sponsors

PRESIDENT can't page 12

FWF PARTNERS is an annual donor recognition program designed to provide a continuing stream of unrestricted support to FWF year in and year out. PARTNERS gifts will support FWF's most critical priorities.

A PARTNER pledges to make a gift each year to join one of the PARTNERS gift clubs. PARTNERS names will also be acknowledged regularly in FWF communications including the *Florida Fish and Wildlife News*, the FWF website and our annual report. Of course, any PARTNER may choose to remain anonymous.

As an FWF donor, member, or friend you **are now invited to join one of the PARTNERS clubs** according to your capacity and to what FWF's conservation action means to you. The giving clubs are:

FWF PARTNERS

Conservation Visionary	\$25,000
Conservation Hero	\$10,000
Conservation Champion	\$5,000
Wildlife Sustainer	\$2,500
Wildlife Advocate	\$1,000
Wildlife Steward	\$500
Friend of Wildlife	\$100

To become an FWF PARTNER, to receive a pledge form, or for more information, contact **Diane Hines** at dhines@fwfonline.org or 850-656-7113.

FWF PARTNERS PROGRAM

The Florida Wildlife Federation announces a new and exciting dimension to its fundraising program — FWF PARTNERS!

Conservation Champion

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Billy Causey

Linda Stanley

Ned Stone

Jay Exum

Lou Kellenberger

Ray Carthy

Martha Musgrove

Friend of Wildlife

Jim Schuette

Bri Jones

Ann Vanek-Dasovich

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REPORT

by Nancy Anne Payton, Southwest Florida Field Representative



WildBlue is Pretty Green

For over a decade, Florida Wildlife Federation has been working with a succession of landowners and developers to protect Stewart Slough and its eastern branch located in eastern Lee County.

The eastern slough, of particular interest to the Federation, provides a major habitat connection between preserve lands north of Alico Road with the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW) south of Corkscrew Road.

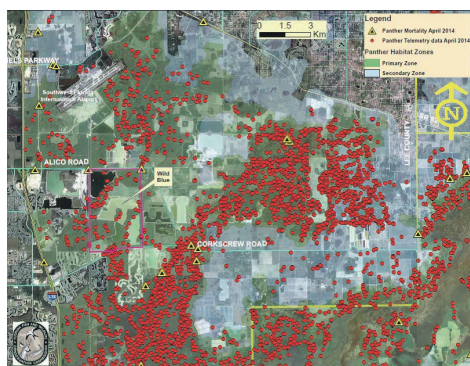
With input from the Federation, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and others, Private Equity Group has designed a new community named WildBlue that protects and restores the connection essential to Florida panther movement in eastern Lee County.

The three-mile-long linear preserve through WildBlue will be highly functioning wildlife habitat. Eventually wildlife crossings, in the planning under both Corkscrew and Alico roads, will further enhance the ability for Florida panthers and other wildlife to safely roam Lee County and Southwest Florida's conservation land network.

The parcel, mined and abused for 40 years, is 3,560 acres including 900 acres in deep lakes. Proposed for wildlife habitat restoration and preservation are 1,300 acres. Rooftops will only border one side of Stewart Slough and its eastern branch. Wildlife will be buffered from people by lakes, fencing, and other appropriate barriers. WildBlue's residents will be educated and held accountable through the community's innovative Wildlife Co-existence Plan.



The map below with the red dots was prepared by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. It shows Florida panther telemetry on and around WildBlue (located left center). Immediately to the west of WildBlue is Florida Gulf Coast University and further west is I-75.



The "green" map is of eastern Lee County's conservation lands with WildBlue in the navy blue circle in the middle of the map. Note how WildBlue's conservation lands overlap with the Florida Panther telemetry dots.



The permanent protection of Stewart Slough's eastern branch exponentially increases the habitat values of Edison Farms shown in the red circle.

Edison Farms is six sections of undeveloped land that abut the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW). It has long been a target for wetland conservation and for years has been on Lee County's 20/20 acquisition wish list.

With WildBlue's preserve plan, Edison Farms becomes regionally significant for the roaming, foraging and denning of Florida panthers and black bears. No longer can Edison Farms be

dismissed as a habitat cul-de-sac next to I-75. It now can be integrated with protected habitat north as well as east.

There is a great deal more work to be done in eastern Lee County to secure a forever-protected regional wildlife habitat network. However, with WildBlue's restoration and preservation of Stewart Slough's eastern branch, and

accompanying wildlife underpasses, a cornerstone is guaranteed.

The Federation is proud to have influenced WildBlue's pro-green development and looks forward to working with Private Equity Group as the project moves through the government approval process.

Panther Underpasses Not Just for Panthers

The following photos, courtesy the FGCU's Panther Posse, record a variety of wildlife using a SR 29 underpass that connects the Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge and the Big Cypress National Preserve. Photos were snapped in April 2014.

Note "29N" on the wall behind the alligator. The wall is on the north side of the SR 29 underpass. Therefore, the alligator is traveling east to west, from the Big Cypress National Preserve into the Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge.



Florida black bear

Bobcat



American Alligator

Limpkin Family



White-tail deer



NORTHEAST FLORIDA REPORT

by Sarah Owen Gledhill, FWF's Northeast Florida Planning Advocate



JAXPORT Not Mitigating the Impacts

The Jacksonville Port Authority (JAXPORT) is proposing to expand its operations which will include dredging the St. Johns River under what is called the Jacksonville Harbor Deepening project. The project will dredge the existing channel of the St. Johns River from 40 to 47 feet. Thirteen miles of the river are to be deepened, from the mouth of the St. Johns to just west of the Dames Point Bridge near Blount Island, and two areas of the channel close to Chicopit Bay and Ft. Caroline National Memorial would also be widened.

We are greatly concerned about the projects impacts to wildlife and habitat. Issues concerning changes in salinity, shoreline erosion, sedimentation, actual blasting of the river floor and an increase in ship volume and size all have potential impact on our wildlife. These issues may not only impact the species themselves but also the quality of life of those who work on the river in the tourism and commercial fishing industry, hunters and anglers and other recreationists.

Of significant concern is the underfunded and conservatively designed mitigation plan - \$30.5 million for monitoring and \$2.9 million for land conservation. Originally an \$80 million mitigation budget was on the table. What happened?

As we discuss mitigation and the potential impacts there is "a lot of noise in the system." From sea level rise to the proposed water withdrawals, proving what is the cause of impact and what triggers the adaptation efforts is going to prove very difficult.

FWF is working with the St. Johns Riverkeeper, North Florida Land Trust and Sierra Club to have these issues addressed by Mayor Brown's JAXPORT task force which will meet monthly over the next year to come up with recommendations.

Montessori Students Learn about Northeast Florida's Endangered Right Whale

In celebration of Earth Day and the end of the North Atlantic right whale calving season, FWF partnered with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to provide an educational program to the St. Augustine Public Montessori School.

Approximately 500 North Atlantic right whales exist today. Their primary calving grounds are off the coast of southern Georgia and northeast Florida. Entanglement and ship strikes have made it difficult to down-list the right whale from an endangered species to a threatened species. Progress has been made to increase their numbers such as modifications in fishing gear and increased monitoring by groups such as the FWC, whose efforts are largely funded by the federal government. During the most recent calving season, November 15 – April 15, 42 individuals were sighted and 10 calves were born.

In addition to the presentation, each student was given a copy of

Waltzes with Giants due to the generous support of FWF members.

This was a great opportunity for a non-profit and a state regulatory agency to partner and give something back to the community.



WMD Recreational Public Meeting

Recently I had the opportunity to attend the St. Johns River Water Management District's Northern Recreational Public Meeting. These meetings are set up to serve as an update of what the land managers are doing with our recreational lands. There were only two members of the public in attendance – and I was one of them. I highly recommend you contact your water management district's land management division to be alerted of the next meeting. I believe you will find it very informative and you will walk away with more knowledge of our public lands.



FWF member Rob "Mauryce" Farley with oversized redfish, later returned to water.

Northeast Wildlife Cameras

FWF is monitoring a creek crossing under US 1 in Flagler County with trail cameras. We are capturing lots of birds and it seems to be a super highway for raccoons, but we have also seen a family of river otters going back and forth on both sides. Enjoy!





Jay Liles
FWF Policy Consultant

Worse than Hurricane Ivan

That's how an emergency manager in Escambia County summed up the damage done during the two days of devastating rains that fell on the Florida's western Panhandle. The tragic loss of life and the misery wrought on our fellow Floridians can't be measured in dollars alone. No one can be compensated for the personal loss of family and friends, nor recover the sense of security taken after such a calamity.

While our hearts go out to those who are suffering from the devastation left behind in Escambia, Santa Rosa and Okaloosa Counties as well as dozens of other communities across the Panhandle and Big Bend regions, it represents another wake up call for Florida and the nation. Mother Nature is always unpredictable, but that these events are stronger and more damaging is not. Scientists tell us our climate is changing and that we can expect more of the same in years to come.

It is ironic that when the storm hit, the Florida Legislature was in session. Bills introduced would have further reformed our financially imperiled state insurance plan – Citizens Property Insurance (CPI) and the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund (FHCF). Sponsors of the legislation had hoped to build upon reforms passed last year that would reduce the size of both the Cat Fund and Citizens. Unfortunately, they met strong resistance and little real reform actually passed. In fact, they voted out a bill to delay enactment of language that would have prohibited coverage for new construction

in low-lying, flood-prone areas.

Florida has managed to dodge another Hurricane Ivan or any major storm for more than eight years. In that time reform of these insurance programs, which rely heavily on taxpayer-backed subsidies, has been hard to accomplish. Policymakers fear voter resentment from those who may pay higher premiums to live in vulnerable areas of the state. What the no-name storms of last week tell us is time is running short and action is more urgent than ever.

That is why the Florida Wildlife Federation, has worked with business, consumer and environmental advocates as part of the Stronger Safer Florida coalition, to push for reforms intended to return Citizens Insurance to the insurer of last resort (as it once was) and to spread the risk associated with the FHCF. Analysts for the state insurance carrier have told policymakers that current market conditions are very favorable for restructuring the catastrophe fund to ensure it will be able to meet its obligations this year and in subsequent hurricane seasons. Restructuring would shift the burden from taxpayers to true risk transfer with reinsurance from outside the state. This will improve the durability of the FHCF, making it more sustainable in the long run.

Governor Scott, Chief Financial Officer Jeff Atwater and Attorney General Pam Bondi -- sitting as The State Board of Administration -- have an opportunity to address the shortcomings of the Legislature when they meet later this year. They should take this opportunity to direct the managers of the FHCF to purchase more private reinsurance. They should encourage the next Legislature to further reform Citizens Property Insurance.

Last week's devastation will take time to recover from. We should all do what we can to help those who suffered losses. Florida policymakers don't have the luxury to wait any longer. We need to take advantage of reinsurance rates and help all Floridians avoid unnecessary taxes associated with future storms.



FWF SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR BEAU TURNER YOUTH CONSERVATION CENTER

On Saturday, July 12th, the Beau Turner Youth Conservation Center (BTYCC) will be holding a new volunteer orientation session. BTYCC personnel will talk about the Center, the opportunities offered to our youth and how we as individuals and groups can assist at the Center. They will cover requirements, rules, and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's). After the initial meeting attendees will visit each hub of the Center, will learn how each hub works and BTYCC will answer any and all questions. The BTYCC is always open to suggestions for activities so please feel free to bring them to their attention. BTYCC is looking forward to a great working relationship with FWF volunteers and the assistance to all those willing to share and give of their time for the future of our youth. You may also visit the BTYCC website at www.btycc.org or their Facebook page at Beau Turner Youth Conservation Center to learn more about the Center.



FLORIDA KIDS' QUIZ



2. How can you cut pollution by planting shrubs and making flower beds in the lawn at your house?



1. Why does the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission not allow keeping certain kinds or sizes of fish sometimes? Even if you catch one by accident, you have to release it back into the water.

3. Which tiny bird can do a special kind of thing when it is flying and is found only in the western hemisphere (the Americas)?

See page 14 for answers, and more information.

Samantha Baraoidan receives FL-TWS Scholarship

Congratulations to FWF Youth Conservation Director, Samantha Baraoidan, who received the *Greater Everglades Student Memorial Scholarship* from the Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society at their annual meeting in April 2014 in Safety Harbor. Samantha is a recent graduate of the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Science degree from the Department of Wildlife Ecology & Conservation. Following graduation, Samantha will be working for NEON (National Ecological Observatory Network), a continental-scale observatory that measures the causes and effects of climate change, land use change and invasive species on U. S. ecosystems.



She will be a technician at the Ordway-Swisher NEON site outside Gainesville. FWF is very proud to have Samantha serving on its Board of Directors.

FWF Scholarship Update May 2014

Dear FWF Members,

On Friday, April 25, the UF Department of Wildlife, Ecology and Conservation held its annual picnic at Lake Wauberg. During that event, FWF Scholarships for 2014 were awarded to four individuals. We are proud to continue to assist students in the UF WEC with our FWF Scholarship Fund awards each year. Our Fund at the UF Foundation has grown to over \$90,000. Thanks to all who have generously donated to this important Fund.

The following individuals received the FWF scholarship awards in 2014: Dan Green (\$1,000), Katie Price (\$1,000), John Hargrove (\$500) and Christina Chinchayan (\$250).

Manley



Pictured left to right: Dr. Bob McCleery, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation; John Hargrove, WEC doctoral student; Christina Chinchayan, WEC undergraduate student; Dan Greene, WEC doctoral student; and Katie Price, WEC undergraduate student.

To make an online donation to the FWF Scholarship Fund, please go to:
<https://www.uff.ufl.edu/OnlineGiving/FundDetail.asp?FundCode=013403>

New Eagle Club Members:

Mrs. Patrick J. Mackey, Niceville

Nancy A. Alderman, Sebastian

Furney R. Hemingway, Palm Coast

Norma W. Lachow, Palm Beach

New Life Members:

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H. Hugh Boyter, Jr., Tallahassee

Deborah G. Gale, Orlando

Dr. Ray Carthy, Gainesville

Martha Musgrove, West Palm Beach

Madison Ashley, Palm City

Griffin Browning, Thomasville, GA

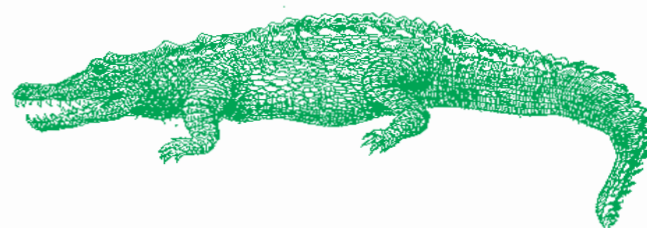
Luke Browning, Thomasville, GA

Kinsey Browning, Thomasville, GA

Samuel S. Thayer, Dundee

Thank you for your generous support!

**Legacy Club Members are those who have donated \$5000 or more in a single gift. Eagle Club Members are \$1000 donors, and Life Members are \$500 donors.*



2014 Legislative Session Round-Up

On behalf of the Florida Wildlife Federation and its board and members we want to thank you for taking action on conservation issues this year. Your voice is critical to our ability to positively impact the legislative process.

By Jay Liles and Preston Robertson

As the 2014 Session ends this week, one is reminded of that old quote about life from Shakespeare's play MacBeth. The Session was "full of sound and fury, signifying nothing." As many election year Sessions before it, not many bills passed and not much law was made. Sometimes this is a good thing. HB 703, which would have afforded almost lifetime water use permits to applicants even in the face of almost no water conservation and a growing populace, was defeated. As to other aspects of the conservation agenda, please see below.

Springs Bill

For many months, FWF and other pro-clean water advocates have been working with like-minded legislators to help our unique freshwater springs. On April 29, Senators Simmons, Simpson, Dean, Hays and Montford tried to get the Springs bill, **CS/CS/SB 1576**, approved by both the Senate and House of Representatives. Although they succeeded in getting the Senate to approve the bill 38-0, the House didn't take up the bill even though there was still a small time available to do so. Therefore, the bill is dead for this year. Once again, an issue that seems to make so much sense to most of us, that our fabled springs should not be befouled and degraded, has not had enough support from our elected leaders to merit consideration by enough of them to take meaningful action.

The version of the bill that the House refused to consider was not the well-crafted legislation that the Senators had worked so long on, as it had been weakened by special interest groups. Even this weakened version was apparently too much for the leadership in the House.

It is no secret that our springs and our rivers are polluted. Anyone who has lived in Florida and visited these once wonderful places over the years can attest to their stark decline. As an indicator of the state of our water resources, the springs depict a very serious problem, and one our state government is apparently not ready to correct.

The months' long effort by the above-named Senators, who come from both parties, shows that this is not a partisan issue, nor should it be. Repub-

licans, Democrats and Independents all need clean water. We need the tourism and jobs clean waters bring. Unfortunately, even as our state population continues to grow, we as yet do not seem to have the ability to conserve the natural resources we are blessed with.

As we continue to push for real action by the Legislature on springs and other polluted resources, all of us must consider the fate of our water, the lifeblood of Florida, as we select members of the Legislature. We will be striving for a solution again next Legislative Session and we need all the allies we can get.

Budget news

The House and Senate have agreed to the final 2014-15 state budget (HB 5001). Here are some environmental highlights:

Florida Forever Program - \$12.5 million from general revenue plus up to \$40 million from the sale of non-conservation lands. \$5 million for conservation easements on farms/ranches. Compare this to the many years Florida Forever received \$300 million per year.

Springs - \$25 million total (\$10 million in recurring and \$15 million in non-recurring) but the money can only be spent after Florida DEP successfully gets a plan approved by the Legislative Budget Commission.

Lionfish Bounty - \$427,000 to pay people who catch and keep this highly invasive marine species.

Beach re-nourishment projects - \$45 million.

Deer stamps - (\$5 deer stamps Florida hunters buy that go to manage the statewide herd). Per the approved budget, \$50,000 of the collected money will go to a study to determine if the FWC should have stopped the importation of live-cervids (deer, elk, etc.) owing to the potential of the introduction of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) into Florida. There is no live animal test for CWD and it is always fatal. Deer farmers opposed the FWC closure which passed last year. FWF supported the closure and opposed this use of the money.

Insurance reforms delayed one year

Last year, the Legislature enacted major reforms of the Citizens Insurance Program, the state-sponsored property insurer. Among those reforms was a provision backed by the Stronger Safer Florida Coalition (of which FWF is a part) that would prohibit the sale of Citizens Insurance for new construction in low-lying coastal zones seaward of the coastal construction control line or within the Coastal Barrier Resources System.

This year, the Legislature voted to delay enactment of this provision for one year, to July 2015. This is intended to give drafters a chance to clarify the definition of "new construction," a term which, under Florida Statutes, would include the re-construction of an existing structure that may be damaged due to fire, storm or other event.

Rather than take the chance that the provision we worked so hard to enact might be repealed, we thought it better to tacitly endorse the delay and work with bill sponsors to perfect language which retains the original intent and also limits its impact to specific areas of the state where Citizens is the dominant carrier.

On a brighter note, the same bill (HB 1089) directs Citizens to no longer insure high-rise condominiums that are primarily used as rental properties, such as timeshare units. This was the only positive step forward this session in further reducing Citizens Insurance to the insurer of last resort. Unfortunately, the Legislature was unable to reach an agreement on legislation designed to shift more of the risk to private reinsurance under the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund. Another chance to do so will be discussed by the Florida Cabinet later this year when they are presented with a plan by the staff of the State Board of Administration to purchase more reinsurance. Doing so will shift the exposure to private reinsurance companies and away from taxpayers, another goal of the Stronger Safer Florida Coalition. FWF believes we should not be underwriting the building of structures on sensitive coastal areas.

Thanks to all who took the time to get involved in the Legislative process!



Birds-Portraits, First Place:
"Female Snail Kite w/snail" by
Terry Davis (Joe Overstreet
Landing, Florida)



Sunsets-Sunrises, First Place:
"Solitary Sunset" by Myrna Erler-
Bradshaw (Ft. Island Trail Gulf
Beach, Florida)



Birds-Flight, Second Place:
"Nest building" by Barbara
Bowen (Honeymoon Island State
Park, Florida)

The Madeira Beach School Wildlife Habitat was made using only native materials. Planting and maintenance were done by students, under the leadership of Nina Nicholson and Bill Droke. Students have workdays to eradicate weeds and trim plants. Higher grades host lower grade classes on forays into the gardens to teach the younger students about native plants and their care. The school is located on a lagoon of Boca Ciega Bay, and uses raised wooden walkways over shallow waters to teach lessons in preservation of aquatic plants such as mangroves, and about fish and marine mammals.

The Madeira Beach students of Mr. Droke led Ms. Jones on an extensive tour of their habitat gardens and of the areas on the waterfront used for marine studies. Students also showed her a PowerPoint presentation they had made, detailing the native plants in the gardens, with information about which native animals utilize which plants for food, (leaves, nectar, fruits) and shelter, (bird nests, butterfly host plants,

etc.). Not only do student's activities gain them new information about environmentally beneficial plantings, they are practicing writing and computer skills.

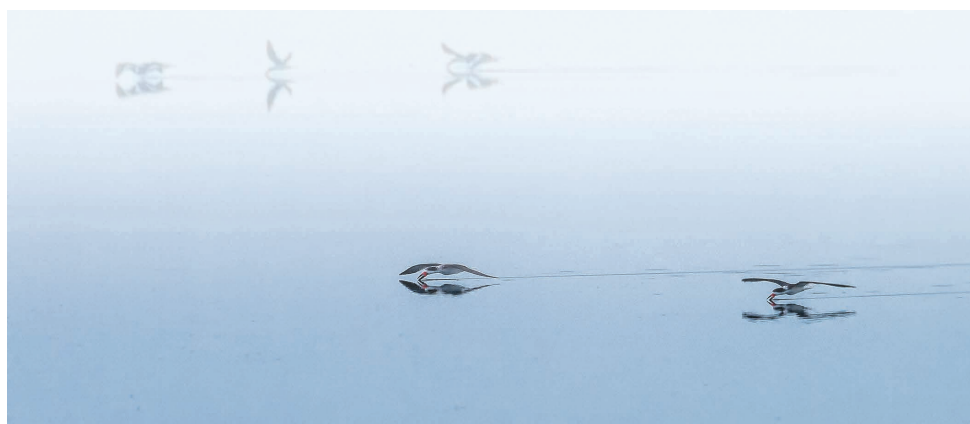
The contest was open to all backyard and schoolyard habitats in Florida established and tended by children 12 and under. FWF promotes and supports the National Wildlife Federation's Habitat certifications program, but it is not necessary for habitats to be certified by National Wildlife Federation's certification program to enter or win the Kids' Habitat Contest. It is only necessary to provide the four items needed for a successful habitat, food for wildlife, water, cover to allow escape from predators, and a place for wildlife to raise their young. Of the 4,925 National Wildlife Federation Certified Schoolyard Habitats in the country, 418 are in Florida. FWF believes that education of Florida's youth in ways to preserve our state's flora and fauna is of prime importance. Florida's youth are Florida's future.

A Florida-specific guide to establishing a habitat is available on FWF's website, www.fwfonline.org.



Bri Jones presents the award to Nina Nicholson.

Nina Nicholson, Bill Droke and students with the award.



Waterscapes, First Place: "Foggy Shadows" by Kay Wells (Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, Florida)

Solar Uprising

April 10th, 2014 - Hundreds of Floridians, including a former governor, college students, solar industry developers, faith leaders, clean energy advocates and more, converged on the State Capitol for a Solar Uprising Rally to demand that the legislature and the governor act to unlock solar power development in the Sunshine State.



Florida citizens gather to support solar power.



A solar powered stereo provided music for the event.



Chris Castro and Justin Vandebroek from IDEAS For Us speaking at the rally.

MUST-SEE Exhibits at the Museum of Florida History in Tallahassee

By Claudia Farren, Communications Consultant

Do you live in Tallahassee or are you coming for a visit this spring or summer? The Museum of Florida History has a new exhibit, *The Lure of Florida Fishing* that you won't want to miss. *The Lure of Florida Fishing* exhibit is a fun walk-through of sport fishing history in our state. Sport fishing has enticed fishermen and tourists to the Sunshine State since the nineteenth century. In 1885, tarpon were traditionally taken by harpoons. When an angler caught one on a rod and reel, the first "Florida fishing craze" was born. Come visit Tallahassee's Museum of Florida History and learn why Florida is named the "Fishing Capital of the World." *The Lure of Fishing* exhibit will be on display until **August 26, 2014**.



About the Museum of Florida History: The Museum of Florida History is part of the Florida Department of State's Division of Cultural Affairs and is located in the R. A. Gray Building at 500 S Bronough Street, Tallahassee, FL. Hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Sunday and holidays, noon to 4:30 p.m. Phone: 850-245-6400. Free parking is available in the garage next to the R. A. Gray building.

For more information visit www.museumoffloridahistory.com.

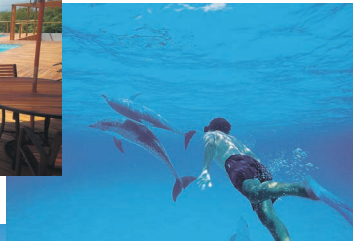
Twenty-fourth Annual Boating and Outdoor Trip of a Lifetime Sweepstakes Launches in June

By Claudia Farren, FWF Sweepstakes Coordinator

NEW FOR 2014: TWO DRAWINGS

FWF is adding a new prize, an **Outdoor Trip of a Lifetime**, to our 24th Annual Boating Sweepstakes. There will be two drawings at FWF Headquarters. For the first drawing, the winner will have their choice of a trip for two from ONE of these three great outdoor adventure companies: Guy Harvey Outpost, Cabela's Outdoor Adventures, National Geographic/Lindblad Expeditions, **OR \$12,500 in cash!** The Outdoor Trip of a Lifetime Drawing will be held September 3.

The second drawing will allow the Grand Prize winner to choose ONE of four brand new boats: the Sea Hunt Triton 188 nearshore boat, the Sundance SV211 bay boat, the Hewes Redfisher flats boat, the Ray E-Boat Explorer 21 with the Ray electric outboard motor **OR \$25,000 in cash!** The Boating Sweepstakes Drawing will be held on December 18. All entries submitted by September 3rd are eligible for both drawings.



This year we are offering a new boat from Sea Hunt. The Triton 188 (18-foot 8-inches) is a center console ideally configured for both nearshore and inshore, serious salt-water fishing. The package includes a stainless steel grab rail, windshield, 40-quart built-in console cooler, 105-quart insulated bow storage, 20-gallon aerated livewell, rear boarding ladder, rod holders, hydraulic steering, helm chairs, rear jump seats, recessed cleats (4), and the smooth performance of the Vortex deep-V hull design. Powered with a quiet, reliable Yamaha 115 HP four-stroke engine with stainless steel prop, the prize package includes a Magic Tilt aluminum trailer.

A New Boat Choice



Travel with National Geographic/Lindblad Expeditions is pure delight with their knowledgeable team of oceanographers, scientists, explorers, and photographers. Visit a rainforest in Corcovado National Park, Costa Rica, where you can swim in waterfall pools, kayak, ride horses, and hike in search of an anteater or poison dart frogs. Or, see howler monkeys while exploring the Amazon River in a national reserve in Peru. Take a cruise to marvel at a young gray whale in the Bahia Magdalena breeding lagoon off Baja, California.



Guy Harvey Outposts Resorts and Lodges has 10 Outposts to choose from. Stalk world-class bonefish in the crystal waters of Abaco one day, blue marlin the next. Dive Blood Bay Wall off Little Cayman Island and bird watch at Booby Pond Reserve. You can snorkel with whale sharks or sailfish, catch sails and mako sharks, or go beachcombing on Isla Mujeres off Cancun, Mexico. Explore the Galapagos Islands where you'll see giant tortoises, whales, penguins, and more from the stylish and secluded Iguana Crossing.

Outdoor Trip of a Lifetime Choices



Cabela's offers many national and international outdoor trips for you to choose from. One is located on a sleepy little island north of Cancun, Mexico, where a new lodge caters to the tarpon junkie. Spring and summer is the best time to catch the tarpon migration – some weigh over 100 pounds. A second location for fantastic fishing is the rich saltwater flats of Belize where statistics show there is no better place to get a bonefish, tarpon, permit Grand Slam. Right offshore is the second largest barrier reef in the world. Non-fishing activities include snorkeling and diving, visiting nearby Mayan Ruins, and relaxing by the pool.

How to Enter

For more information or to enter online visit www.fwfonline.org and click on any of the icons for the sweepstakes located throughout the site, including the Sweepstakes navigation bar at the top of every page. Then click on 24th Annual Boating Sweepstakes – Two Drawings OR “Fish or Cruise” Sweepstakes.

Ticket contributions are \$5 each, 6 tickets for \$25, 15 tickets for \$50, or 35 tickets for \$100. Watch for your Sweepstakes tickets in the mail or play online anytime. If you would like a set of tickets mailed to you, send an email to FWF at boatsweeps@fwfonline.org or fishcruisesweeps@fwfonline.org; or call our toll-free number (800) 656-3014. Please provide your full name and complete mailing address to receive a packet of tickets. Specify “Boat Sweeps” or “Fish or Cruise” Sweeps in the Subject line.

Green Car Sweepstakes

The Florida Wildlife Federation will not be conducting the Green Car Sweepstakes this year. Thank you to all who participated in 2013.

“Fish or Cruise” Sweepstakes Drawing to be Held on June 5

The Second Annual “Fish or Cruise” Sweepstakes is quickly coming to a close. Be sure to send in your tickets for your chance to win one of four amazing prizes. The Grand Prize is your choice of five days of fishing for two at the legendary Orca Adventure Lodge in Alaska; a leisurely cruise through the Panama Canal on the luxurious Holland America cruise ship; a cruise through American history touring historic cities of the Southeastern U.S. with American Cruise Lines; **OR \$10,000 in cash.** The drawing is Thursday, June 5 at Federation Headquarters, 2545 Blainstone Pines Drive in Tallahassee. It will be supervised by Carroll and Co. Inc., Certified Public Accountants.

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Big Cypress Bucks © Peter R. Gerbert

Florida White-tailed Deer

Acrylics on Ampersand Gessobord with Texture & UV Varnish

Image size 24 by 36 inches, Original Painting available



Wildlife Artist Peter R. Gerbert, researching with Captain Franklin Adams, FWF Board of Directors



My Subjects...! Captured with my Canon EF 100-400 Lens

"Late last year, I went on an incredible tent camping /research trip into the *Big Cypress National Preserve* and surrounding areas. One of my favorite people, Captain Franklin Adams (*Florida Wildlife Federation Board of Directors, Guardians of the Everglades, Gladesman and Conservationist*) agreed to take me exploring in the area to observe wildlife. I told him I've had a goal to do a new Florida White-tailed Buck painting, something the Florida Wildlife Federation could proudly promote. He assured me that not only would we see an amazing number of birds, we'd also see some bucks, and we did! With the wind blowing in my favor, two 8 point bucks came prancing out of an island of trees and meandered right towards me. They came within 20 feet of me, before they realized I was standing there with my camera. The pictures I obtained are stupendous, with remarkable details. Needless to say, that trip proved to be one of the most rewarding times of my life.

Several months' work went into this one, designing it from my photographs and then painting... With a sunlit-wall of Cabbage Palms as a backdrop; I wanted this piece to be a real, native Florida scene. I think this painting captures the feeling of being right there, with these truly magnificent wild animals.

My heart is in this one."

-Peter R. Gerbert

www.PeterRGerbert.com



One of the nicest campsites I've ever had, in Collier-Seminole State Park (aside from the mosquitoes.)



...at work on the original painting.

Limited Edition Prints of "Big Cypress Bucks" endorsed by the FWF will be available soon! Sign up to receive print info: www.PeterRGerbert.com/maillist.htm
Peter G, Featured Artist of the Florida Wildlife Federation since 1997

PRESIDENT from page 3

of other successful resolutions including: Invasive Lionfish Control Efforts and a reiteration of support for the Public Trust Doctrine and North American Model of Wildlife Management, which emphasizes that our fish and wildlife are public rather than private resources. The National Wildlife Federation meeting is a great opportunity to advocate for conservation issues that have national importance. FWF delegate and Vice Chair, Rick Abbott, and alternative delegate and past Chair, Jim Schuette, as well as NWF director and FWF chair, Jenny Brock, officially represented FWF. I served in a general support capacity during the resolution process; National Wildlife Federation's resolutions provide the basis of NWF's conservation policy. The National Wildlife Federation Convention provides a great opportunity to network with Federation colleagues. I was pleased to meet NWF's new President and CEO, Collin O'Mara. I and Rick Abbott presented Collin a copy of FWF's report on Coastal Policy, Nature's First Line of Defense (available at <http://www.fwfonline.org/Documents/FWFFirstLineOfDefense.pdf>). NWF attorney and wetlands advocate and Florida native, Jan Goldman Carter, was honored for her great legal work on behalf of America's wetlands at the conventions awards banquet.

The annual meeting included a visit to the National Aquarium in Baltimore. The Aquarium is the Maryland Affiliate of NWF and offers an excellent interpretation of marine environments and coastal conservation, the Chesapeake Bay and the need to restore that great ecosystem. Prior to the annual meeting in Baltimore, Jenny Brock, Sarah Owen Gledhill, Jay Liles and I attended the NWF Connie Awards where our allies in Coastal policy issues Renaissance Reinsurers were honored by the National Wildlife Federation. Sarah, Jay and I spent the prior day visiting with our congressional offices.

Preston and Jay worked hard this legislative session on behalf of a number of critical issues including support for critical Everglades restoration and Indian River lagoon funding, springs protection and continued

funding for Florida Forever. Please refer to their columns for details.

I wanted to note that FWF is engaged in challenging the Suwannee River Water Management District's approach to minimum flows and levels in the Ichetucknee and Santa Fe springsheds because we believe the district's approved strategies will not get us to restoration of historic flows. We want to assure that our springs receive sufficient flows to be healthy and to provide full benefits to outdoor recreationists and to the springs and associated rivers ecosystems. According to the USGS, independent of area rainfall patterns, the flows of these springs are reduced well below documented long-term levels due to groundwater withdrawals. Unless strong conservation measures are put into place this negative trend will likely continue. FWF is represented in this matter by EarthJustice.

Florida Wildlife Federation is represented by Tom Reese in our efforts for EPA to establish anti-degradation standards in our waters as required in the Clean Water Act since its establishment. We are continuing this process and will keep you posted as this matter proceeds.

FWF is actively engaged as part of a broad effort to oppose the proposed widening and deepening of the Port of Palm Beach. We believe the proposed expansion of the port is economically and environmentally unsound. The project would result in destruction of vital fish habitat. The area is great for snook. The proposed widening and deepening threatens manatees in a critical wintering area and poses increased threats to the recreational boaters, fishermen, divers, etc. We believe that maintenance of the existing port and some minor site specific modifications could address any of the port's needs in the foreseeable future rather than this unnecessary large scale expansion which will destroy important near shore habitat. We also don't think the expansion is economically justified. I attended a recent meeting in West Palm Beach organized by Congresswoman Frankel. Opposition to the proposed project was significant. FWF is represented in this matter by the Everglades Law Center which provided high quality extensive commentary on the proposed projects flaws. I anticipate this project will require a legal challenge to stop it and get to a more appropriate



Rick Abbott, Manley Fuller and Collin O'Mara, the new President and CEO of NWF.
Photo by Richard Mode, North Carolina Wildlife Federation.

port management program. Bobbie Lindsay, FWF director, has played a key role in this process. Tom Evans, Terry Gibson and Martha Musgrove (FWF directors) also have provided significant assistance so far. We will continue to oppose this project as it is proposed. This port should in our opinion increasingly focus its future strategies on attracting clients based on this port's and surrounding areas' high natural resource and recreational values.

We are actively supporting the educational work of the Beau Turner Youth Conservation Center by encouraging our members and supporters in the Tallahassee and Big Bend area to volunteer in the various programs at the Center. Please see the article on page 7 inviting FWF members to participate as volunteers. Encouraging and educating young people to enjoy the outdoors through a variety of sustainable forms of outdoor recreation is critical to the future of conservation. We will be encouraging our members to participate in many other outdoor centers that feature youth outreach sponsored by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and other great facilities like the E.O. Wilson Biophilia Center, the Oakland Nature Preserve and other organizations across Florida.

FWF has been receiving excellent sup-

port from Martha Musgrove in navigating the myriad complexities of Everglades Restoration. Martha, Terry Gibson and I have been working with our local members and the Everglades Foundation on implementation of critical aspects of Everglades projects such as the Central Everglades Planning project. We are continuing to work on behalf of panther habitat conservation and outreach to south west Florida landowners and ranchers regarding panther conservation issues and addressing challenging issues like depredation, landowner conservation incentives, etc. Both of our field offices are involved in supporting properly researched and designed wildlife crossings that are an integral part of connecting the habitats of wide ranging species such as Florida black bears and in southwest Florida panthers.

The Florida Wildlife Federation needs the ongoing support of members like you. We appreciate your helping us work for "Keeping the Wild in Florida."

Thanks very much,

Manley



Wildlife, First Place: "Rattler Fight"
by Zackary Wackett
(Guana River Wildlife Management Area, Florida)



Macro, First Place: "Dragonfly in the spotlights"
by Larry Nieland
(White City Park, Florida)

FWF's 2014 Spring Greeting Cards

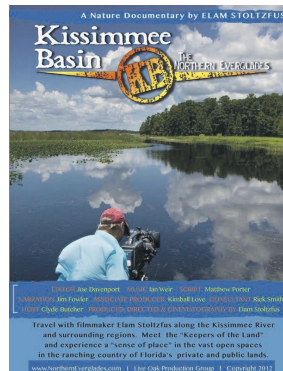
FWF is pleased to feature four outstanding works of wildlife art by Peter R. Gerbert in our spring card series for 2014. When you send these cards to family and friends, it lets them know of your interest and commitment to fish and wildlife conservation. There are 12 cards and 12 envelopes in each packet. For more information on Peter's art work, please visit www.PeterRGerbert.com. To order packets of these cards, see information below.

The cards are available online at www.fwfonline.org in the Nature Store. You may also order by phone toll free by calling 800-656-3014.

**FP-525, Price \$8.95,
Member Price \$8.05**



Kissimmee Basin: the Northern Everglades



Produced and Directed by Elam Stoltzfus

FWF was pleased to support Live Oak Productions in the making of this film.

Travel with filmmaker Elam Stoltzfus along the Kissimmee River and surrounding regions. Meet the "Keepers of the Land" and experience a sense of place in the vast open spaces in the cattle country of Florida's private and public lands. Throughout the centuries, the Everglades have inspired strong emotion. Its history is as broad and sprawling as the River of Grass itself. Although many stories have been told about the Everglades—from drainage to restoration—few have been told about where it all begins: the Kissimmee River Basin.

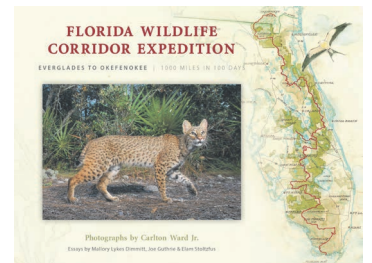
Length: 60 minutes. **FP - 515. Price \$19.95**

Florida Wildlife Corridor Expedition DVD

A collection of stories and experiences woven together in a documentary format. Includes extra video stories and a music video. Produced by Elam Stoltzfus, featured on PBS TV.

1 hour **FP-523**

Price \$20.00, **Member Price, \$18.00**



Florida Wildlife Corridor Expedition Book

The Florida Wildlife Corridor Expedition shows the world that beyond beaches and theme parks, the heart of Florida is still wild—and can still be saved. In 2012, four explorers enter the Everglades and, 100 days later, reach the Okefenokee Swamp in southern Georgia. They paddle, peddle and hike more than 1,000 miles up the spine of Florida to call attention to this remaining natural corridor so essential to the survival of wildlife and to the well-being of Florida's ever-growing population. Stunning photographs by Carlton Ward Jr and essays by fellow explorers bring the story to life in vivid detail.

Paperback, 140 pages. **FP-527**

Price \$24.95, **Member Price, \$22.45**

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Your satisfaction is guaranteed! If the product you receive is unsatisfactory, kindly return to us postpaid and we'll cheerfully exchange it or send you a refund.



*Landscape,
First Place:
"Shadow of
a Rainbow"
by Kay Wells
(Merritt Is-
land National
Wildlife Ref-
uge, Florida)*

IN MEMORIAM

**Donations have been received in
memory of:**



Brain Grigsby

by Mr. & Mrs. Eugene B. Millner

by Antique Auto Club of Cape Canaveral



*The Federation thanks you for your thoughtful contributions. We express
our sympathy to family and friends of those who have passed away.*



**Florida Wildlife
Federation "FWF"**



We welcome you!

To join FWF, a conservation organization dedicated for 75+ years to the health of Florida's fish and wildlife, its waters, native habitats, and sustainable outdoor recreation. We support scientifically based, professional management of natural resources and nature based recreation including hunting and fishing. Ecosystem restoration and recovery of depleted species are also primary objectives. We appreciate your support! Please join today!

Yes I want to join Florida Wildlife Federation in promoting conservation of Florida's natural treasures and the enjoyment of our Great Outdoors! You will receive our publication *Florida Fish and Wildlife News* and periodic conservation updates by mail or email. Thank you.

- ☐ Student.....\$15
- ☐ Associate\$25
- ☐ Family.....\$35
- ☐ Sustaining\$50
- ☐ Sponsor.....\$100
- ☐ Life Member.....\$500
- ☐ Eagle Club Member \$1000
- ☐ Wildlife Legacy Club ... \$5000+

**Please send completed form with
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Tallahassee, FL 32314

or

Join or Donate online at:
www.fwfonline.org

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Answers to Florida Kids' Quiz

1. The Florida Fish and Game Conservation Commission is the state agency that takes care of Florida's fish and native animals. It checks up on how each kind of critter is doing in the wild, and when one kind of fish or animal is beginning to become scarce for any reason, it will make a rule to tell fishermen or hunters to stop catching or hunting that kind of critter until it is able to breed more and make its numbers increase.

2. A gas lawn mower running for one hour causes more air pollution (on average) than driving a car for 350 miles. More shrubbery and flower beds = less lawn to cut. You can help with climate change by having less lawn.

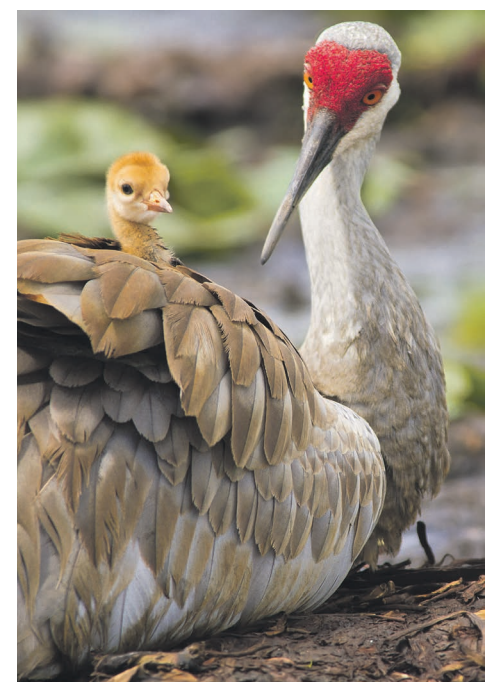
3. The hummingbird can hover like a helicopter, just not moving forward at all. It can move forward and backward and to either side while hovering. No other bird can fly like that.

The Cuban Bee Hummingbird is the smallest bird in the world, at less than 2 1/2 inches long, about the size of a bumblebee.

How did you do, Florida Kid??!!



*Flowers, First Place:
"Orange Fringed Orchid" by
Barbara Bowen (Starkey Wilderness
Park, Florida)*



*Birds-General, First Place:
"Refuge" by Scott Helfrich (Lake
Wales Ridge National Wildlife
Refuge, Florida)*

Where There's a Will, There's a Way...



Steve O'Hara and his wife, Jeri.

For Wildlife

Steve O'Hara spent his childhood family vacations camping in Florida's state parks and national forests and paddling on Florida waters. He hunted and fished his way through high school and college on Florida lands and waters which were open to public access. These experiences were the foundation for his lifelong devotion to conserving Florida wildlife habitat and keeping it open for public recreation.

In the early 1980s, Steve O'Hara joined the Florida Wildlife Federation and campaigned with other conservationists for public acquisition of the Guana area a 12,000 acre tract wildlife habitat with 10 miles of undeveloped beachfront in Northeast Florida. This successful endeavor convinced Steve O'Hara that the Florida Wildlife Federation (FWF) was Florida's most effective grassroots conservation organization in large part because it so willingly engages with others in achieving common goals.

Since then, Steve O'Hara has served almost three decades on the Florida Wildlife Federation's volunteer Board of Directors. He has also included the FWF as a beneficiary in his will.

"Guana is still my favorite fishing destination. I will soon be a grandfather, and I want my grandchildren and their grandchildren to have places like Guana for hiking, hunting, paddling, and other outdoor recreational pursuits. I will leave them that legacy by helping the Florida Wildlife Federation continue its good work for generations to come."

Please join with Steve and help make sure we and future residents can enjoy a healthy, clean and abundant Florida, which helps not only our environment, but also our economy.

A charitable trust benefitting the Florida Wildlife Federation or a bequest like Steve's is easy to arrange, makes creative use of assets and can benefit your family as well as help the Federation.

For more information on how your estate plan can benefit both you and wildlife, please contact **Tim Bachmeyer**, FWF Development Consultant, at **561-801-5752** or Manley Fuller, Diane Hines or Preston Robertson at **850-656-7113**.

Birds-Behavior:
First Place:
"Gator Surfing"
by Myrna Erler-Bradshaw (Gatorland, Florida)



Portrait, First Place:
"Just hanging around" by Barbara Bowen (Anclote River Park, Florida)

Conservation Calendar

June 5, 2014
FWF 2nd Annual Fish or Cruise Sweepstakes Drawing – 3 PM
FWF Headquarters, Tallahassee

June 17-19, 2014
FWC Commission Meeting
Ft. Myers
www.MyFWC.com/Commission

June 20-22, 2014
20th Anniversary of FWF Southwest Florida Office in Naples and FWF Annual Awards Banquet &
FWF Board of Directors Meeting
Naples Hilton

July 12, 2014
Beau Turner Youth Conservation Center
FWF Volunteer Participation Event
(See article, page 7)

September 3, 2014
Drawing for the Trip of a Lifetime or \$12,500.

September 26-28, 2014
FWF Annual Business Meeting
Palm Beach Gardens Marriott
dhines@fwfonline.org

September 10-11, 2014
FWC Commission Meeting, Kissimmee

Florida Wildlife Federation's 77th Annual Conservation Awards Banquet

June 20-22, 2014. Headquarters: Naples Hilton.

Make reservations for tickets through Florida Wildlife Federation and overnight accommodations through Hilton.

20th Anniversary of FWF's Southwest Florida Office

Our events will honor current and past award winners, staff and others who have assisted our SWFL Office with its many accomplishments.

Naples Hilton

Reserve by June 6th to receive room rate of \$99 per night.

The Federation's summer meeting and Awards Banquet will be held at the Hilton Naples Hotel. This premier Naples hotel's central location is close to beautiful beaches as well as many attractions, entertainment destinations, shops and restaurants.



5111 Tamiami
Trail North,
Naples, FL
34103

PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS DIRECTLY through Hilton by calling 1-800-HILTONS or 239-430-4901. Specify the name of the group: "FL Wildlife Federation," to receive room rate of \$99 per night. Or, you may reserve online by visiting <http://goo.gl/F88bbX>.

IDEAS For Us

IDEAS For Us will hold their annual board/staff retreat on June 21-22 at the Naples Hilton in conjunction with FWF's meeting. They plan to engage in team-building activities, discuss important updates and milestones across the IDEAS movement and develop action plans for the next academic year to engage students in environmental projects around the world. If you are interested in further information about IDEAS or their meeting, contact Chris Castro at chris.castro@ideasforus.org.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Bill my Discover, AMEX, VISA, MC #: _____

Exp. Date: _____ Security Code: _____ Total charged: _____

Signature: _____ Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Please reserve your event tickets no later than **June 12!**

Attn. Diane Hines, Florida Wildlife Federation,

P.O. Box 6870, Tallahassee, FL 32314-6870.

Questions? Email: dhines@fwfonline.org or nancypayton@fwfonline.org.

Friday, June 20th

6:30 pm Pool-Side Supper
Hilton Pool
(\$25 per person)



Saturday, June 21st

9:00 am to 4:00 pm FWF Board of Directors/House of Delegates Meeting
Naples Botanical Garden
4820 Bayshore Drive, Naples, FL 34112

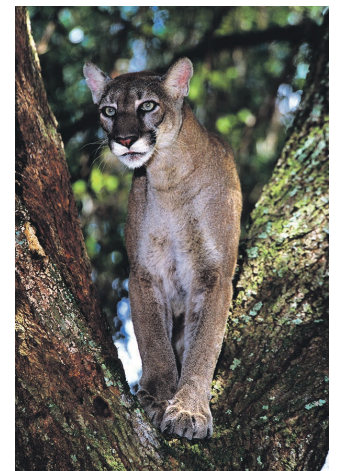
5:30 pm Cocktail Reception/Hors d'oeuvres/Cash Bar
Hilton Royal Palm Ballroom
Art Exhibits & Silent Auction featuring photographer Brian Call and wildlife artist Peter R. Gerbert
Tickets and Registration below (\$75 per person)

7:00 pm FWF's 77th Annual Conservation Awards Banquet
Royal Palm Ballroom
Dinner and Awards Presentation

Sunday, June 22nd

7:30 am to 8:30 am Life Members Breakfast
Royal Palm D
Tickets and registration below
(\$20 per person)

**9:00 am to 12:00 pm FWF Board of Directors/
House of Delegates Meeting**
Naples Hilton
Royal Palm ABC



Brian F. Call Photography

"Florida Panther" by Brian Call

Brian Call's ultimate goal with photography is to encourage others to reconnect with our imperiled natural world. He has been heavily involved with environmental issues for many years, particularly with protecting the Florida panther.

Registration Form For Events

Friday, June 20th — Pool-Side Supper - Hilton Pool
\$25.00 per person. Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ persons.

Saturday, June 21st — 77th Annual Conservation Awards Banquet — Royal Palm Ballroom, \$75.00 per person. Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ people for the Banquet. A table for ten may be reserved for \$750. _____ I wish to reserve a table for ten.

Event Includes Cocktail Reception, Awards Banquet, Art Exhibits, and Door Prizes. Please enter the names of all persons attending with you: _____

Sunday, June 22nd — FWF Life Members' Breakfast — Royal Palm D
\$20.00 per person. Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ persons.

Total amount: \$ _____
Checks payable to Florida Wildlife Federation