



PRESERVATION SOCIETY

PELICAN FLYER

February 2003 — Vol. 10, No. 6



In March, Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge (PINWR) and the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS) will celebrate the Centennial in Indian River County with events spanning 4 days. On March 13, Indian River Mall in Vero Beach will host the Centennial kick-off event dedicating the NWRS Time Capsule Exhibit. The exhibit will be on display in the mall for at least 30 days and includes items from some of the 540 refuges across the nation. The display will travel to the NWRS Conference in Washington D.C. in November 2003, then reside at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Conservation Training Center in West Virginia until Pelican Island gets a Visitor Center.

PINWR, Indian River County and the City of Sebastian will host 3 events for the Centennial Celebration on Friday, March 14. The day will begin with a closed media and partner event at the refuge's new public facilities located off Historic Jungle Trail. The new Centennial Trail to view Pelican Island will be dedicated on this day, although, the facilities will not open to the public until the following day. The Centennial Trail, opening on Saturday, March 15, highlights the NWRS in its first 100 years. All 540 National Wildlife Refuges are engraved in the planks lining

the boardwalk and interpretive panels will highlight the significant growth stories of the system, including the birth of the system at Pelican Island. The public facilities are yet another exemplary partner success story. The facilities could not have been possible without the partnership with Indian River County and the financial support from the following sponsors; Florida Inland Navigation District, St. Johns River Water Management District, Conoco Philips Petroleum, Pathways to Nature, Florida Power and Light, Caterpillar and the PIPS.

Following the morning dedication of the public facilities, the official Centennial Celebration will begin in Riverview Park Sebastian. As a part of the events, the U.S. Postal Service will conduct the First Day of Issue of the Pelican Island Postage Stamp – this is truly a great honor! There will be entertainment followed by speeches from dignitaries and a live wildlife demonstration by Jack Hanna of Wild Animal Adventures. Exhibits from refuges across the nation will be set up in the park to highlight the diversity and enormity of the Refuge System.



Welcome New Members

Gregory Harber
Ed & Jean Junker
Shirley Kilkelly
Pamela Patterson
Don & Cindy Shaw
M.A. Weldishofer



The PIPS Poster Contest rules and flyers have been distributed to all Indian River County public elementary schools and all (3) Middle Schools (for 6th graders). Again, the prize for 1st place winners will be a US Savings Bond with additional prizes for 2nd and 3rd place entries.



AND DON'T FORGET OUR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST for amateur and student photographers. Subject matter: scenes of natural Florida Wildlife and/or landscapes. Call Bob Montenaro at 772-567-8949 for an entry form, or visit the PIPS website at: <http://nbbd.com/npr/pips>.

The City of Sebastian with Sebastian River Medical Center has stepped up to the plate to host the evening Arlo Guthrie Concert and Fireworks in Riverview Park. Musician Pete Harris will open a 7pm concert for Arlo and fireworks on the river will begin at 9pm.

This year, PIPS and PINWR will be hosting a 2-day Wildlife Festival in Riverview Park to celebrate the centennial year. There will be environmental exhibitors, arts and crafts booths and food vendors set up throughout Riverview Park. Sebastian Riverboat Tours (formerly Harbor Princess Tours) is hosting boat tours to view Pelican Island every 1/2 hour for \$5 per person. Proceeds will be donated to the Pelican Island Preservation Society for refuge projects. Kayaks Etc. will again be offering a variety of kayak trips throughout the weekend and has donated a kayak for the festival raffle. Each day in the park will feature 4 seminars with topics such as Pelicans, Florida Panthers, the Great Florida Birding Trail, the Indian River Lagoon and a multimedia presentation on the National Wildlife Refuge System. A stage aside the river will feature entertainment in the morning and live music each afternoon. There will be a new kid's activity area with lots of things children can make, do and learn. The Photography Contest and Youth Poster Contest will be on exhibition all weekend with the awards ceremony taking place on Sunday.

The Pelican Island Audubon Society (PIAS) and the Environmental Learning Center (ELC) has coordinated special guided bird watching tours at Great Florida Birding Trail sites in the area, including Blue Cypress Conservation Area, Oslo Riverfront Conservation Area, St. Sebastian River State Buffer Preserve and more. For more information about these birding trips, please call the Audubon Society at 772/567-3520. As a part of this partnership, the ELC will be hosting boat trips and seminars by author and conservationist, Kenn Kaufman on

both Saturday and Sunday. Proceeds for the boat trips will be split between the PIPS, PIAS and the ELC. For more information or to pre-register, call the ELC at 772/589-5050.

And last, but not least, the feature presentations of the 2 day event will be live wildlife demonstrations by Jack Hanna of Wild Animal Adventures on Saturday and by Jim Fowler of Wild Planet on Sunday. Additional wildlife demonstrations will be presented daily by local wildlife rehabilitators.

We'd like to highlight our raffle items this year donated by Kayaks Etc and Eagle Optics. Raffle tickets will be on sale throughout the Centennial events for 2 packages. One package includes a 78mm spotting scope with tripod, 8 x 25 compact binoculars, birder's vest and autographed Kenn Kaufman field guide to birds. The other package includes a kayak, paddle and life vest. Proceeds will go to support future refuge projects.

Thanks to all the supporting sponsors of the 2003 Centennial Wildlife Festival:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Riverside Bank, Sebastian Riverboat Tours, Kayaks Etc, Eagle Optics, VisitTitusville.com, Wal-Mart, Treasure Coast Refuse, Spectrum Interior Design, Disney's Vero Beach Resort, Beach Cove Sebastian, EcoFlorida Magazine.

Joanna Taylor, *Refuge Ranger*

A detailed schedule of events will be available soon on the website at pelicanisland.fws.gov or call Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge at 772/562-3909 for more information.

CELEBRATING A
CENTURY
of CONSERVATION



JANUARY 27TH PROGRAM:

Ruth Stanbridge, Indian River Co. Historian, will be the speaker at the PIPS January 27th program. She will be bringing information on the Indian River County Scenic Highway, as well as some historical background on the county and Pelican Island.

The Scenic Highway runs south from Brevard County, along US Highway 1, through Sebastian with historic houses and buildings highlighted. The route turns east at Riverview Park to the lovely Sebastian Riverfront and the Paul Kroegel statue. The route continues south on US Highway 1 to CR 510, east across the Wabasso Causeway. The Historic Jungle Trail is noted, as is Pelican Island. The Scenic Highway route travels north from CR 510 through Brevard County with the McLarty Museum and Sebastian Inlet State Park noted.

This is a great addition to the county's many eco-heritage and cultural sites. Those of us who live in Indian River County year-around sometimes forget the many historic and cultural opportunities to be found here. We invite newcomers and visitors to the area to attend this program and learn more about the area and its great history.

All PIPS programs are held at the North County Library located at 1001 Sebastian Blvd. (CR 512), in scenic and historic Sebastian!! Programs will start at 7:30 p.m. and light refreshments will be served following the program. For directions to the Library and more information on the program, call Ruth Davies at 772-589-3687.



The PIPS sales team will have on hand the new Centennial, limited edition ornament (see illustration) and new lapel pins. Our energetic sales team leader, Mary Ann Krueger, has already begun mailing some of these ornaments and pins to places like California, Arizona, Pennsylvania and other areas in Florida. These are, as the saying goes, "hot off the presses", so attend our January 27th meeting and get yours while the supply lasts!!

The ornaments are \$15 each and will be a great souvenir of the Pelican Island Centennial Celebration! The lapel pins are \$5 each. NOTE: If you are unable to attend the PIPS program on January 27th, but still want to order the ornament and/or lapel pin, call any of the PIPS Board members to place your order. There are also a number of locations in the county where the ornaments are being sold: Galleon Jewlers in Riverwalk Shopping Center, Sebastian Riverboat Tours, Pelican Island Audubon Society office in Vero Beach, Capt. Hiram's Restaurant, Sebastian and Disney's Vero Beach Resort Gift shop to name just a few. Many thanks to all the businesses who have supported this fund raising effort!!

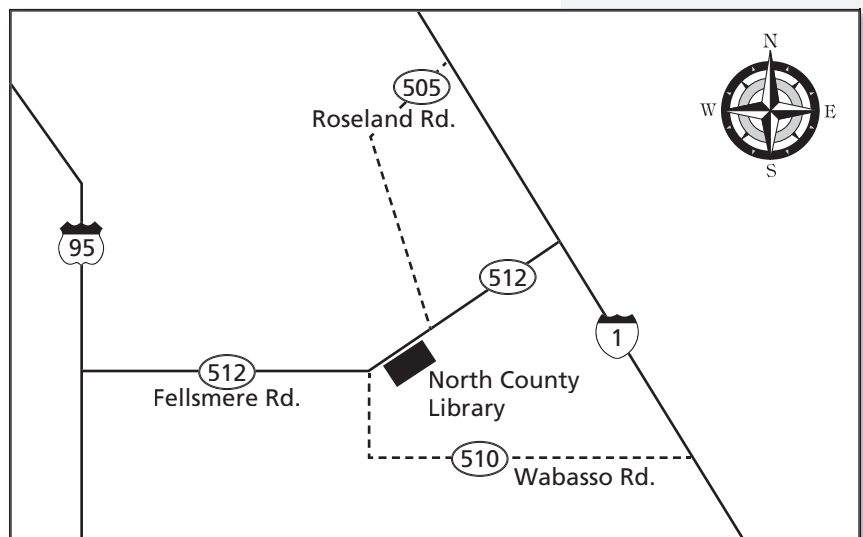


Many, many thanks to the 2003 Pelican Island Wildlife Festival sponsors:

Beach Cove Sebastian
Disney's Vero Beach Resort
Eagle Optics
Kayaks, Etc.
Peak Performance Co.
Spectrum Interior Design
Treasure Coast Refuse
Wal-Mart Sebastian

Each of these fine organizations will receive a (1) year membership to PIPS! Thank you, again, nice people!

Map to PIPS Meeting



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Pelican Island

PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Please check one:

- Student (under 18) – \$5/yr.
- Individual – \$10/yr.
- Family (Joint) – \$15/yr.
- Contributing – \$50/yr.
- Corporate / Business – \$100/yr.
- Supporting – \$250/yr.
- Life – \$500

Name(s) _____

Company _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (Day) _____ (Eve) _____

Email _____

Here is my donation for the Pelican Island Centennial Wildlife Festival on March 15 & 16, 2003.

Please use my donation to sponsor (check one or both boxes below):

- A US Savings Bond for a 1st Place winner of the Children's Poster Contest.
- Use this donation to sponsor another Program or Exhibit

*Send completed applications & dues to **PIPS Membership***

P.O. Box 1903, Sebastian, FL 32978-1903

Pelican Island

PRESERVATION SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1903
Sebastian, FL 32978

*DID YOU KNOW...PIPS has a website! This can be accessed by entering:
www.nbbd.com/npr/pips*

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE FEBRUARY 2003 PROGRAM AND CONTINUING UNTIL APRIL, 2003:

ALL PIPS GENERAL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE NEWLY RENOVATED AND ENLARGED NORTH INDIAN RIVER COUNTY LIBRARY. THE LIBRARY IS LOCATED AT 1001 SEBASTIAN BLVD (CR. 512), SEBASTIAN. GENERAL MEETINGS WILL START AT 7:30 PM. MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC AT NO CHARGE.

PIP's Officers and Directors 2002-2003

are as follows:

President	Walt Stieglitz.....	772-663-9750
Vice President	Ilka Daniel.....	772-589-8973
Secretary	Denise Leeming.....	321-723-0316
Treasurer	David Cox.....	772-388-6058
Directors:	Jill Geisz.....	772-388-0022
	Terese Harber.....	772-589-1180
	Tim Glover.....	772-589-0636
	Jorie Butler Kent.....	772-388-0145
	Mary Ann Krueger.....	561-581-7472

REMEMBER - THIS IS YOUR ORGANIZATION, NOT
JUST OURS.



Printed on recycled paper.

Do not hesitate to call any of the Board Members with suggestions, comments or criticisms.