



Suwannee-St. Johns Group

# Sierra Club

Newsletter

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## Coastal Calusa

PROGRAM EXPLORES TRIBE'S LITTLE KNOWN HISTORY

BY KRISTINA JACKSON

South Florida was once the domain of the Calusa Indians, a powerful and complex society which had as its homeland the rich estuaries of southwest Florida. Using locally available materials — wood, plant fibers, bone, shell, and sharks' teeth — they fashioned ingenious tools: a saber made with shark teeth, axes made with sharpened sea shells fixed to a wooden handle, palm-fiber nets that could capture fish in great quantities. And they painted, carved, and engraved, producing works of art that are known the world over. Yet the Calusa are practically unknown to today's Floridians.

Dr. Marquardt's program at the Sierra Club, entitled *The Calusa Indians and Their Environment*, will focus on the indigenous Native American people of southwest Florida and the estuaries that supported them.

According to Dr. Marquardt, "Aside from the fascination of learning about past people, and the satisfaction of knowing more about our state's history, telling the story of the Calusa also helps us raise awareness of the richness and complexity of Florida's environments."

The rich ecological diversity of the area the Calusa settled is as important a part of the story as the creative skills of the people

themselves. The subtropical coastal environment of southwest Florida, where fish and shellfish were found in fantastic quantities, provided a year-round abundance of food. Game was plentiful. A dazzling profusion of plants provided foods, medicines, and materials for making canoe paddles and fishing equipment.

The Calusa were among the last native Florida Indian societies to succumb to the consequences of the European invasion. Victims of warfare, disease, and slavery, they ceased to exist as a distinctive culture in the 1700s.

Dr. Marquardt works with the FLMNH to make this historical information available in interesting ways, so people can easily understand it. Efforts are concentrated at two different levels: statewide through the FLMNH's exhibit program and regionally in southwest Florida through the Randell Research

Center at Pineland.

There are exhibits on south Florida heritage and environment both permanent and traveling. FLMNH has already assisted several southwest Florida museums with exhibits on the Calusa. As well as creating a traveling exhibit on Gulf coastal fishing and a permanent exhibit in Gainesville *People of the Estuary: Six Thousand Years in South Florida*.

### Pineland: A Key to the Past

One of the most important towns of the Calusa Indians was located at Pineland, on the northwestern shore of Pine Island. Today what remains here in Lee County is a 200-acre archaeological site occupied by the Calusa for over 1,500 years. Their enormous shell mounds overlook the waters of Pine Island Sound. Middens — the remains of many centuries of Indian village life — blanket the pastures and citrus groves. Sand burial mounds stand secluded and mysterious in the woods.

Native plants characteristic of coastal hammocks, pine woods, wetlands, and shell mounds are in abundance.

The Pineland Site Complex, and the

see **INDIANS**, page 3

**GENERAL MEETING**  
**Thursday, Dec. 2, 7:30 PM**  
 Entomology/Nematology Building on the UF campus  
 (Just east of the Performing Arts Center. Turn south off  
 Hull Road on to Natural Areas Road.)

**THE CALUSA  
 INDIANS  
 AND THEIR  
 ENVIRONMENT**  
 DR. WILLIAM MARQUARDT  
 CURATOR IN ARCHAEOLOGY  
 FLORIDA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY (FLMNH)



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# Dubya Redux

## ANOTHER LOST CHANCE TO ELECT AN ENVIRONMENTAL PRESIDENT

BY DAVID AUTH

Chair Suwannee St. Johns Sierra Group

In 2000, the majority of voting United States citizens had hoped the new millennium would get off to a far more auspicious start. Instead, the Republican majority on the U.S. Supreme Court elected the first far right, evangelistic President in our history, a person who abhors the separation of Church and State and prefers an oligarchy of the rich, similar to what Europeans suffered from for centuries. From April, 2000 under President Clinton through March, 2003 under President Bush, the stock market saw the siphoning off of seven trillion dollars through profit-taking. This is coupled with almost four years of net negative job creation and the lowest interest rates since the Great Depression. People on fixed incomes be damned.

After 9-11, President Bush easily goaded an almost completely compliant Congress and a scared, submissive U.S. population to reinstate the same militaristic corporate disease which afflicted this nation from 1941 until the late 1980's. The fall of the Soviet Union produced only a short Clintonian peace dividend, perhaps

now gone for another generation of accelerating global environmental collapse and, perhaps, a global police state. The United States declared a holy crusade against the "global terrorist network", a tiny group of anarchists willing and able to blow themselves and others up because they hate our globally oriented, corporate run militarism. Bush II's administration would convince the majority of Americans that these fanatics were swarming inside our homes using media tactics far more sophisticated yet no more truthful than those instituted by the Nazi and Fascist Parties between 1919 and 1945.

Since early in World War II, United States corporations have been the main architect of the arms race, with major help from the Soviet Union and many other countries spending money on this junk at the expense of people everywhere. Soviet Typhoon submarines, with the capability of destroying every city in the United States at the touch of a few toggle switches, cruised quietly off our Atlantic coast until the late 1980's. Now *that* was a threat. The U.S. and world had a brief chance to close this chapter of insanity. Of course, the manufacturers of large ticket military hard-

ware have resisted this change.

Thus, 9-11 was a terrible and probably avoidable catastrophe, foretold rather poorly to President Bush by his own intelligence specialists as revealed to the 9-11 Committee this year. Although Bush prepared for war with Iraq from the moment he took office, as revealed in Bob Woodward's two most recent books, it took 9-11 to really get the ball rolling. Incredibly, one of Bush's first responses to 9-11 was to fly almost the entire bin Laden Family out of the United States, even though he knew the mastermind was Osama. This fact was carefully not repeated by Candidate Kerry, after being revealed by Michael Moore! Kerry never had a clear "Plan" for Iraq. This, in my opinion, is why he lost the election.

I think the people of the United States still do have something major to be afraid of and that something isn't terrorism. It's four more years of control by a ruthless calculating man following a corporate agenda for the world. The federal government will, for four more years, ignore the global environmental collapse and our major contribution to that collapse through our material excesses. Instead of electing candidate John Forbes Kerry, the majority elected a person who sleeps like a baby never contemplating his decisions may be wrong. The list of unnecessarily dead heroes rises

see REDUX, page 6

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### CORNER

## Visit the National and Local Sierra Club Websites!

National: <http://www.sierraclub.org> • Local: <http://www.gatorsierra.org>

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### FOLDING PARTY

Interested in hosting a newsletter folding party? Contact Scott Camil at 375-2563

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# High Time for an Everglades Trip

BY KAREN GARREN

Ah, Florida's Fabulous Fall is finally here. The bugs are at tolerable levels, it's the best time for a South Florida trip.

**DECEMBER 9-15:** Thursday through Thursday. An outing to South Florida to learn about the Everglades Hydrology Restoration Project. This is a great opportunity to visit an area that may be underwater within 50 years, what with global climate change and sea level rise!

A big issue in the forefront of the news for several years is "What to do with the Everglades"? Bird populations there have plummeted and are indicative of the health of the ecosystem. The Everglades ecosystem is unique in the world but it "don't get no respect"! For decades its headwaters in Lake Okeechobee have been drained. Water that makes the meandering trip across the "River of Grass" carries much pollution from the Okeechobee agricultural areas. But there is hope. The state of Florida has entered into agreement with the federal government to restore the system. With the advice of hundreds of qualified biologists, agency personnel, and a consortium of environmental organizations, an action plan was initiated. The tale has all the intrigue of a Hiaasen novel with mines and special interest groups and

endangered species to coordinate! Come view the most ambitious restoration project humans have ever undertaken.

We will spend three nights at beautiful Kissimmee Prairie State Preserve – for more information check out their web site at [www.floridastateparks.org/kissimmeetprairie](http://www.floridastateparks.org/kissimmeetprairie)

The Kissimmee River once wandered through swamps and wetlands. Then it was channelized, the wetlands used for cattle ranching, with pollution running straight for Lake Okeechobee. We will see the effort to put some of the kinks back into the river.

The endangered Whooping crane reintroduction project centers east of here at Kissimmee Three Lakes Water Management Area. On the lake we will look for Snail kites and Woodstorks, two species with conflicting lifestyles. We will hike the Lake Okeechobee berm, erected in the 1930's in response to hurricane floods, effectively turning this second largest lake (wholly within U.S. borders) into a giant bathtub!

We will then meet at the Everglades National Park to stay three nights at Long Pine Key and/or Flamingo. We will visit Cape Sable, canoe White Water Bay, hike through hammocks, and bike the Shark Valley loop road. For more information on the ecosys-



Banana Island in Crystal River. Our January 8 manatee watching trip will take us there.

tem, check out [www.nps.gov/ever/home.htm](http://www.nps.gov/ever/home.htm).

**SAVE THE DATE: JANUARY 8,** Saturday we will visit Crystal River and King's Bay to do some manatee watching. This is planned as a canoe/kayak and snorkeling outing, bring your own water craft or rent at one of many local outlets. It's a great thrill to have an enormous animal glide beneath you then surface and blow its vegetative breath across your bow! Watch for more on this outing in the January newsletter.

Remember, these sierra club outings are all educational and open to the public but you may be asked to sign a release of liability to participate.

For more information contact Karen Garren, 371-0008, or [IluvFla@gru.net](mailto:IluvFla@gru.net)



## INDIANS, from page 1

Randell Research Center located there, is of critical importance to Calusa archaeology for several reasons. It's waterlogged deposits preserve artifacts not found in dry sites. The remains of many centuries of Calusa daily life reveal the fascinating, complex world that existed before the arrival of Europeans. Pineland is a key to understanding global issues as well. Pineland's accumulated deposits record sea-level fluctuations and perhaps even climate changes. Such fluctuations are of interest to scientists who study the earth's recent environmental history.

Dr. Marquardt connects knowledge of our past with stewardship saying, "As

modern Floridians face issues of balancing development and environmental conservation, learning about the role these fragile ecosystems play in our lives is more important than ever before. The more we learn about Florida's past people and environments, the better prepared we will be to help make Florida's future."

### About Dr. Marquardt

William Marquardt received his Ph.D. in Anthropology from Washington University, St. Louis, in 1974 and is Curator in Archaeology, Florida Museum of Natural History. Since 1985, he has directed the Southwest Florida Project, focused on the ancient domain of the Calusa Indians.

He has been instrumental in the establishment of the Randell Research Center, a research and education center at Pineland. He is curator of the permanent exhibit, People of the Estuary, and is co-author of *The Calusa and Their Legacy* (University Press of Florida, 2004). Current research interests include the emergence of sociopolitical complexity, especially in the southeastern United States and circum-Caribbean areas; processes of archaeological site formation/deformation; and the role of archaeology and history in environmental education.

*The Florida Natural History Museum website [www.flmnh.ufl.edu/sflarch/](http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/sflarch/) was heavily quoted for this article by Kristina Jackson.*

# A New Stage in the Saga

## ALACHUA COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SUPPORTED BY JUDGE

BY DWIGHT ADAMS

As you may have learned already through the news media, on October 18 the Administrative Law Judge ruled against the petitioners, finding the Alachua County comprehensive plan amendments in compliance on all counts. (The Recommended Order (RO) can be found at the DOAH web site: [www.doah.state.fl.us/ros/2002/02-2676.PDF](http://www.doah.state.fl.us/ros/2002/02-2676.PDF).) Although some of the amendments clearly were not in compliance based on lack of the required supporting data and analysis (D&A), the ruling came as no surprise since the deck is stacked against citizens' suits.

For example, the Judge cites D&A supporting the mandatory clustering for 2002 amendments, replaced by 2003 amendments, that "rural cluster subdivisions are simply an internal transfer of density involving the same number of dwellings." In fact, as even the County testified, this is simply not the case for density-bonus clustering that would allow seven dwelling units on 20 acres with lots as small as 1.43 acres. Under the existing plan, four 5-acre lots would be allowed on 20 acres. The Judge goes on to state that the County "hopes" that density bonus will work and does not need any D&A nor expert testimony to support this! Another profound legal argument supporting an amendment was that it "appears on its face to be sensible."

We have the right to appeal the Judge's ruling in the District Court composed of three judges and have positioned ourselves for that possibility. Before we get to the District Court, there are other hurdles in the involved, convoluted process that is illustrated in the accompanying diagram. (Who in their right mind would have invented such a tortuous process?) Referring to the diagram, about 2/3 of the ways down, we have just come out of the Div. of Administrative Hearing with the "In Compliance" ruling that puts us into DC (unless we want to throw in the towel). The process of getting into DC requires that we write Exceptions to any portions of

the Judge's 240-conclusion, 140-page RO that we may want to contest in DC. These had to be in within 15 days of the ruling, which was Nov. 2 (another day in infamy).

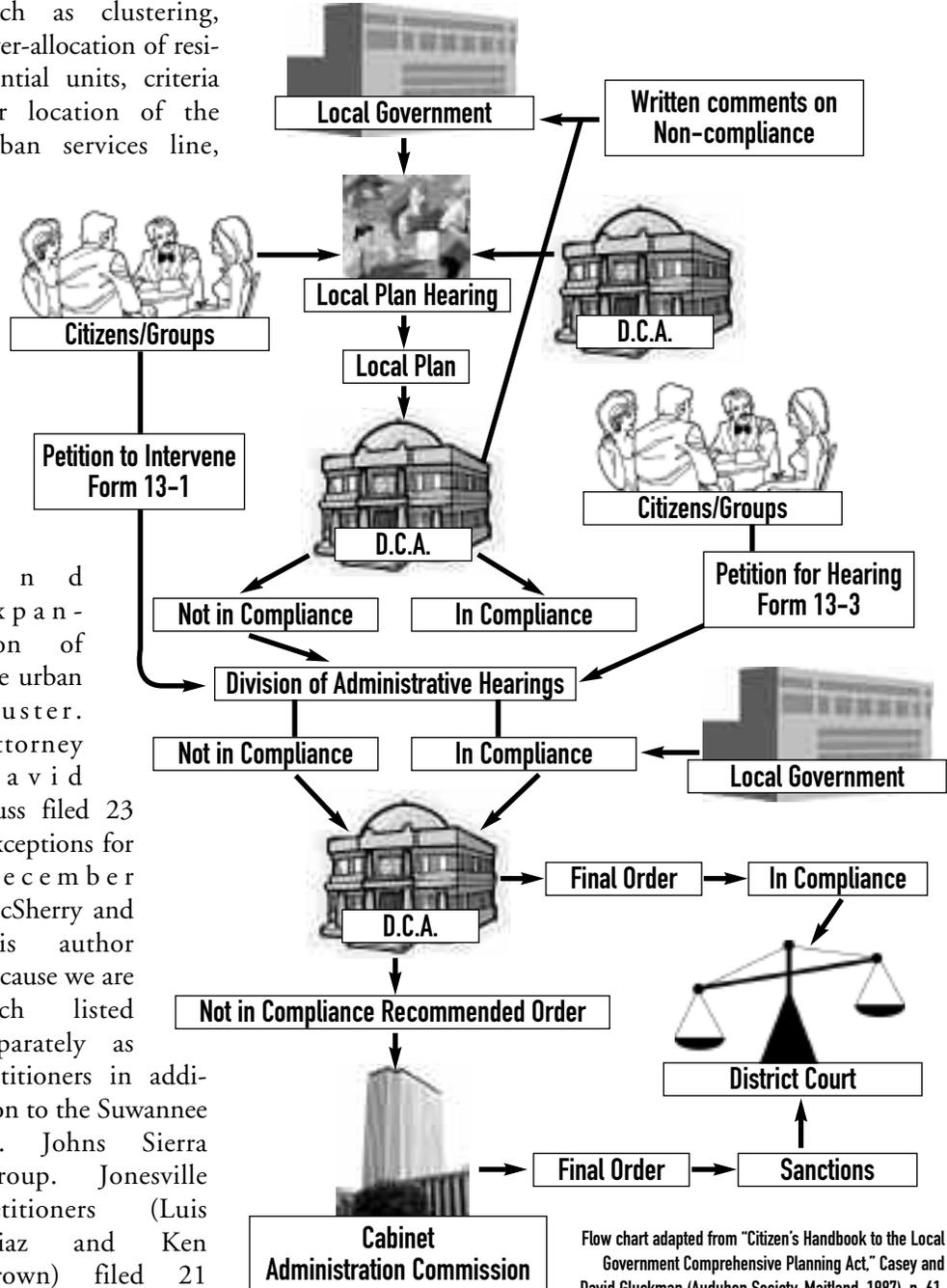
Following discussion of issues where we felt that the Judge had erred, our attorney, Deborah Andrews, filed a total of 17 Exceptions (she did a Herculean job of pulling these together in a few hours to meet the deadline). These deal with issues such as clustering, over-allocation of residential units, criteria for location of the urban services line,

and expansion of the urban cluster. Attorney David Russ filed 23 Exceptions for December McSherry and this author because we are each listed separately as petitioners in addition to the Suwannee St. Johns Sierra Group. Jonesville petitioners (Luis Diaz and Ken Brown) filed 21

Exceptions that have mainly to do with the designation of "environmentally sensitive" land on their property. Alachua County, and others with whom it is aligned, filed a single exception, namely that the Judge failed to rule on compliance of the 2002 amendments (which got us into this squabble!). There are a total of about 50 pages of Exceptions. Any party that wants to respond to others' Exceptions has 10 days in which to do so. By request of the County, this deadline was extended to November 24.

The next step is for the Department of Community Affairs 

### ENFORCEMENT OF LOCAL COMPREHENSIVE PLANS



Flow chart adapted from "Citizen's Handbook to the Local Government Comprehensive Planning Act," Casey and David Gluckman (Audubon Society, Maitland, 1987), p. 61.

# River Rally

## SCIENCE AND THE SUWANNEE RIVER

**BY KAREN AHLERS**

President, Putnam County Environmental Council

For 35 years, conservation organizations in Florida have been working together to restore the Ocklawaha River and remove Rodman Dam in Putnam County, Florida. A local grassroots group, the Putnam County Environmental Council (PCEC), has designed an event aimed at reinvigorating this decades-long battle and having fun in the process.

PCEC understands the apprehension of local officials and the business community that fear a negative economic impact if the river is restored. To address that issue, PCEC has planned a fun-filled weekend event to demonstrate the positive impacts of nature-based tourism that will result from a restored river.

On President's Day weekend, February 19-20, 2005, all supporters of restoration are invited to come and enjoy one of the 50+ field trips and tours we've arranged in beautiful, rural Putnam County, stay at least one night and eat at local restaurants. Some of the most skilled field trip leaders in north central Florida are taking part in this event including Lars Anderson, Karen Garren, Marc Minno, Erick Smith, and many, many others.

On Saturday night, join us at Ravine Gardens State Park in Palatka for a free, music- and fun-filled pep Rally for the River! Author Al Burt is the featured guest



Father and son fishing on the banks of the Ocklawaha near Rodman Dam.

along with Florida folk music master Dale Crider who's bringing other musician friends. A cheerleading squad comprised of leaders from many of Florida's conservation organizations will also be on hand to lead cheers for restoration, including Sierra's own Susie Caplowe.

It will take a big crowd to demonstrate an impact on the local economy. PCEC is counting on the support of like-minded folks that are equally frustrated over the decades spent working on this issue.

Florida Defenders of the Environment, the leader on this issue for 35 years, has graciously made space for information about the Rally on their website. The site, [www.fladefenders.org](http://www.fladefenders.org) is a good place to go for information about the fight to restore the Ocklawaha, to learn more about PCEC and FDE, and to download a brochure about the Rally. The brochure gives the details of what PCEC is planning,

why they believe this event will have a positive effect on restoration, and how you can participate. You can also download the field trip, accommodation, and restaurant lists to assist you in your planning.

The coming year is critical. Gov. Bush, DEP Secretary Colleen Castille, and Attorney General Charlie Crist are supporters of restoration but who knows whether the next administration will be on our side. Also, Rodman Reservoir is scheduled for a periodic drawdown for weed control October 2004 - April 2005, the last drawdown on Gov. Bush's watch. Since the Special Use Permit issued by the U.S. Forest Service has expired, the re-filling of the reservoir will be, in effect, "permitted" trespass on federal forest land.

Considering these facts, the timing of PCEC's Rally for the Ocklawaha River is perfect for maximum impact! The start of the 2005 legislative session will be less than a month away and we want all restoration supporters to be motivated to contact their elected officials. Come see Rodman Reservoir at its lowest draw down point when the potential for restoration is most visibly obvious.

## Rally for the Ocklawaha

### February 19 & 20, 2005

Come one, come all to Putnam County for field trips, music, food and friends.

Please come, have fun, and help further our shared goal of restoring the Ocklawaha River, February 19-20, 2005. The bigger the crowd, the bigger the impact. We need your help to make this work!

If you have questions or need hard copies of printed materials, please contact Karen Ahlers, (352) 546-3560 or [PCECriverrally@hotmail.com](mailto:PCECriverrally@hotmail.com)



(DCA) to write a Final Order based on the RO, Exceptions, and Responses. Recall that DCA has already found the amendments in compliance when they reviewed it over two years ago. Furthermore, the suit by Preserving Rural Property Values et al. was against both the County and DCA. This clever move by their attorney, former DCA head, Linda Shelley has put DCA in the position

of an enormous conflict of interest: they decided the amendments were in compliance initially, argued the case before the Judge, and now will write the final order.

Do we expect DCA to find any aspect of the plan to be not in compliance? No, but these are the steps on the way to the District Court.

After DCA files its Final Order, there is a 30-day period in which we can file a

Notice of Appeal to the District Court. Then, there are 90 days in which to file briefs on the case for the judges' review and decision.

The chances of winning on appeal are not great, but are better than with the Administrative Hearing process—occasionally citizens do win something on appeal.

**REDUX, from page 2**

day by day and the wounded keep coming home. Instead of a person who would have intellectually grown in the job of the Presidency, a self-improver in an incredibly complex job, we have a person who thinks reading a book is too much of an effort. Instead of a President for All the People we get one who checks voter registration and refuses entry to Democrats at his rallies.

The parties and the 527's spent \$1 billion dollars on this election, up from 600 million in 2000 and much less in 1996. Pretty soon only Bill Gates or a Walton will be rich enough to run for any national office. The Republican machine has rediscovered an ancient immoral recipe for political victory: repeatedly lie to the American people about every Democratic candidate's record and intentions and the majority of voters will elect more liars to leadership positions. We may be entering a second Dark Ages, a dynastic period of contempt for science and reason and concentration of wealth and power in very few hands.

What are some of the hopeful signs for 2008? Eleven percent more women voted for Kerry in 2004, in part because of wanting to retain control of their reproductive systems. Men, perhaps because they found him both more likeable and decisive, voted nine percent greater for Bush. Blacks voted a whopping 78 percent and Hispanics/Latinos 13 percent more for Kerry (Whites voted 15 percent more for Bush). People in cities larger than 50,000

voted 13 percent more for Kerry, but reversed for Bush in smaller cities and rural areas. Of course, minorities and large urban centers will continue to grow faster than the white population and lower density parts of the country.

If education level mattered, why did 51 percent of college graduates vote for Bush vs. 47 percent for Kerry? Presumably this is because incumbency is extremely hard for any candidate to overcome, especially for Senator Kerry, who started out with an unsettling name recognition problem after



19 years in the Senate, insufficient funds, and having to overcome nine other primary candidates. Quite a few people are glad Kerry won't disappear after this election like Gore did in 2001, since Kerry has a job in the Senate until 2008. As JFK says, Reagan didn't become President the first time he tried either.

We can hope that the environment will play more of a role in the next campaign, although things will inevitably be worse than they are now. The environment was hardly on the political radar screen in 2004. When Kerry made his bus and train trip across the country in August and

stopped at the Grand Canyon, he talked about Iraq on the rim instead of David Brower's successful prevention of damming the canyon or the great power of water erosion. A single environmental question was asked during the three debates, although Kerry did change the subject to bring up the failed Kyoto Agreement. There is a simple reason Kerry didn't aggressively attack Bush on his environmental record. When he took office Bush II had a 51 percent environmental approval rating. Three years later, well into the worst environmental record in the last 100 years, his EAR had only dropped to 46 percent. The mass media rarely reported anything to the American people about what the administration was doing wrong environmentally. It was also observed that major reversals of environmental regulations were announced late on Fridays so that little emphasis was placed on the administrations' actions. Perhaps you smell a conspiracy here?

There is one more thing to be hopeful about. It is practically inevitable that significant cracks will appear in the Congressional Republican monolith. If enough rational moderate and conservative Republicans lose their fear of this lame duck, lame-brained President and combine forces with a determined Democratic minority, the world may avoid more new wars, save Social Security from the corporations, and vote down Bush's worst-qualified nominees. Otherwise, get ready for Filibuster and the City.

*Election data from Newsweek's special issue, "How He Did It." November 5, 2004.*

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# Win Some, Lose Some

**BY ROB BRINKMAN**

Political Committee Chair, Suwannee St. Johns Sierra Group

Hopefully, by the time you receive this newsletter you'll have recovered from the election. We must renew our efforts and battles. I am looking forward to the spring municipal elections; while the national elections are very important, local elections often have immediate impact on our lives and this group's issues. In Gainesville, three out of seven commissioners' terms expire this spring.

The Gainesville City Commission recently approved the Significant Ecological Features Overlay District (SEFOD). While this ordinance was weakened significantly, it represents an important step toward protecting the more ecologically valuable undeveloped land in Gainesville. Electing representatives to pass legislation such as SEFOD is often more productive, and certainly less costly, than legal action to protect the environment. SEFOD originated several years ago from a suggestion by then-Commissioner Bruce Delaney. Demonstrating that some efforts by elected officials may not come to fruition until years after they leave office.

While many candidates or issues endorsed by the Suwannee St. Johns Sierra Group prevailed, defeating an incumbent congressperson is nearly impossible these days. Dave Bruderly gave it his best effort. Dave first ran for U.S. House of Representatives District 6 in 2002. After that learning experience, Dave campaigned continuously for the past two years. I personally want to thank Dave for all of the

time and effort he put into his campaign. Unfortunately, the onslaught of conservative voters swept his opponent back into office. Dave did carry Alachua County.

In the U.S. House District 3 race, Corrine Brown, with only a write-in opponent, rode a tidal wave of support to win re-election. Speaking of candidates with only write-in opponents, Alachua County Commissioner Mike Byerly, after defeating a primary opponent, easily won re-election with over 92% of the vote.

The most gratifying victory for me was for the campaign reform charter amendments that passed by more than 2-to-1 margins. Thanks go to Susan Wright, who put four years of her life into the effort to develop and implement these reforms. It was important that we passed these reforms because the authority to do so in state law would have expired in 2006. Although the recently enacted provisions apply only to county constitutional officers, considering the margin of victory, it would be wise for all local candidates to voluntarily restrict themselves to \$250 per contributor.

Being political committee chair has been challenging and rewarding; most of the candidates and issues endorsed by the SSJ group in the three elections held this year succeeded. I want to thank the political committee members who helped interview the candidates and worked the get-out-the-vote phone banks. I want to thank all the members who voted. Please do not be discouraged that we lost the top of the ticket races; it was, after all, a close election. While some may claim a mandate from this election, it was, in fact, a closely contested

race down to the last hour. While this last election did not descend into the chaos of the 2000 election, it still exposed many faults in our electoral system. Is it really a fair election when many people had to wait hours to vote? Particularly impacted were lower income citizens, many of whom had work or childcare responsibilities that did not allow them time to wait in long lines.

In previous articles I have urged members to take election days off from work and instead work for a candidate. On Nov. 2, I was a poll watcher for the Betty Castor campaign. Relatively few people had any difficulties voting, though I did witness a Republican poll watcher attempt to challenge the right of a Florida National Guardsman, in uniform, to vote because he had not received the absentee ballot that had been mailed to him. There was no legal basis for this challenge and, after discussions between the poll clerk, poll watchers and an attorney from the Kerry campaign, the clerk allowed him to vote. This Guardsman had rushed home to Gainesville in order to vote.

Political involvement is still the most effective means at our disposal to protect the environment and our quality of life. Our leaders need education, encouragement toward enlightened policies, and our support at election time. Legal action can be very effective also but needs to be seen as a last resort. Some may be inclined to withdraw, but I urge everyone to respond with an increased effort.

I hope you used your ballot in last month's SSJ newsletter to vote for our new executive committee members. If re-elected to the SSJ executive committee this year, I will not be able to continue as political committee chair as I will be a candidate for public office.

## SIERRA CLUB CALENDAR SALE

Sierra Club calendars are perfect gifts for your friends and family. They'll enjoy this gift every day of 2005! Calendars are available at all General Meetings (Nov. 11 and Dec. 2). If you live outside of Gainesville or are unable to attend our meetings, call Joanne Auth at 352-371-1991 to discuss other arrangements. If you are a member who has contacts where the calendars may be sold to co-workers/friends, call for information about taking a few to sell. We appreciate the help!



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 FOUNDED 1892

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



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## DECEMBER 2004 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m., Thursday, SSJ Sierra general meeting at the Entomology and Nematology Bld. on UF campus (see page 1).**

**Dec. 6, 7 p.m., Monday, Counting ballots for the 2005 SSJ sierra executive committee seats. At Joanne Auth's house at 425 NE 7th Street, call 371-1991.**

**Dec. 9, 7 p.m., Thursday, SSJ Sierra executive committee first meeting with new ExCom members. Meeting at SFCC Downtown Gainesville campus.**

**Dec. 9 to 15, OUTING to Everglades ecosystems. Canoeing, biking and hiking. See page 3 for details. Contact Karen Garren, 371-0008 or ILuvFla@gru.net**

**Dec. 17, 7 p.m., Newsletter folding and holiday social at Barbara Reid's house: 4129 SW 2nd Ave., Gainesville. Contact Barbara at 335-3041.**

**Dec. 21, 7 p.m. Veterans for Peace Annual Solstice Party. Celebrate the longest night at the Thomas Center with a couple hundred of your best friends. While you're there come by the Sierra Club table and buy some coffee, calendars or greeting cards.**



David Auth, SSJ Sierra Group Chair (left) and National Sierra Club President Larry Fahn discuss issues of local and national importance during Fahn's visit to Gainesville last month.

Many local sierrans came out that night to see *Monumental* a movie about David Brower, the first Sierra Club Executive Director.

## Membership

**Yes**, I want to help safeguard our nation's precious natural heritage. My check is enclosed.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club

Mastercard  Visa Exp Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
INTRODUCTORY	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$47
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32

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**Sierra Club**

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