Florida Lake Management Society

September 2008	
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President's Corner

Well another term, another set of goals in mind! It seems like yesterday, but it has been 5 years since I had the privilege of serving in the same capacity. It is wonderful to see how strong the organization has been in many ways. Lots of great things have happened with our organization Most of all, since then. FLMS is viewed Nationally as one of the better managed, organized and financially sound Lake Organizations, having co-hosted many SE-NALMS and National Conferences here in the State. That can only happen due to the involvement of the many volunteers who have served on the Board, as well as those who take the time to assist us in the many FLMS Chapters we have throughout the State by conducting local meetings and sharing their knowledge.

It is obvious that the Florida Lake Management Society and its membership play a very significant role in Water Management and Resource Protection. We at FLMS do so many things that are important, not only locally and State-wide, but also nationally, by sharing our knowledge at these many local meetings and conferences. We hope that this year we will be able to put all that knowledge into a FLMS technical publication. Thus, as one of our goals-besides hosting another successful Annual Conference at Key Largo, yes, Key Largo-we hope to seek volunteers to help with providing scientific or technical articles, volunteer as reviewers or editors, participate in organizing the local chapters and seek more senior or graduate students to participate at our annual conference. We always welcome a few hours of volunteer time to help with our quarterly FLMS Newsletter articles as well. Please visit our website (www.flms.net) frequently to see what's going on and how you can assist the organization.

I am certain we have many stories, photos and articles to share after the recent tropical storms. Just when we thought we have dealt with one of the worst Tropical Storms (Fav) to hit our State, we had a few more brewing. Needless to say, these Storms and Hurricanes seem to be an annual occurrence since 2004. As I traveled the eastern parts of the State, it became very obvious as to how important it is for us to manage our water resources and prepare for the unpredictable excess rains. How important were stormwater ponds, ditches, canals, lakes and other waterways in managing the flooding in your area? We would love to hear vour stories.

So get involved with your local FLMS chapter and don't hesitate to volunteer your



Share Your Knowledge!



Past President, Clell Ford handing over the gavel to Shailesh Patel, Current President

time or share your knowledge. I look forward to working with all of you on another fantastic year!

Shailesh K. Patel



2008 Annual FLMS Conference: A Brief Recap

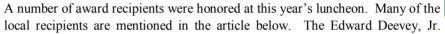
The 2008 FLMS conference was held at Sandestin Resort in the Florida Panhandle on the shores of the Gulf of Mexico and the Choctowhatchee Bay. The conference was well attended by the Florida members as well as folks from Alabama, Georgia Tennessee and Massachusetts.

The first day of the conference provided a variety of workshops including harmful algal blooms, erosion control, bird and plant identification, dredging, GIS, TMDL's and a great introduction to the coastal dune lakes found in the panhandle. Mark Hoyer with University of Florida's Florida LAKE-

WATCH program focused on the interesting individual and collective attributes of the coastal dune lakes in the panhandle, then concluded with a field trip to two of the lakes (Oyster Lake and Deer Lake). The remainder of the conference was packed full of presentations, including discussions on water wars, lake and watershed management, and vegetation management to name a few of the topics. The poster session was one of the largest in FLMS history with thirteen posters pre-

"Mark Hoyer's experience working on Florida systems is invaluable to all in Florida."

Dr. Dan Canfield, Director Florida LAKEWATCH



Award given to an individual for their contributions to our scientific understanding of Florida's waterbodies was presented to Mark Hoyer. All of Mark's supporters (there were many) agreed on the tremendous amount and high quality of data and knowledge that Mark has disseminated about Florida's aquatic resources.



Several area citizens received awards from the Florida Lake Management Society (FLMS) at the Annual Awards Banquet in Sandestin on June 4, Walton County Commissioner Cindy Meadows accepted the Bob Graham Award, which is given to an individual serving in elected office in recognition of their commitment to conserve, protect and restore Florida's surface water resources. Commissioner Meadows has supported the efforts of environmental groups such as the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance (CBA) of Northwest Florida State College, the South Walton Community Council, and Nokuse Plantation, among others. Her support has lead to the development of CBA's Coastal Dune Lakes Program, which provides citizen-based water monitoring, education, and various research and restoration projects that focus on Walton County's aquatic resources.

The Lake Powell Community Alliance (LPCA) received the Scott Driver Award, which is given to citizen activists demonstrating outstanding commitment to promoting the restoration, protection and/ or appreciation of Florida's aquatic resources. LPCA is "dedicated to preserving the water quality and biodiversity of the globally rare and imperiled Lake Powell ecosystem through education, habitat restoration, watershed-based planning, and community partnerships." It is an organization of stewardship, action, education, and volunteerism that would not exist without the foresight, diligence and dedication of area residents Chris Forman, Emily Ellis and Richard Bryan.

The Marjorie Carr Award is the Society's highest award, given for a lifetime of work on behalf of Florida's aquatic resources. This year the award went to CBA's own Mr. Ross Hamilton, who has taught science courses at Northwest Florida (NWF) State College for 36 years and was a founding member of the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance in 1996. Mr. Hamilton, guided by the Florida Department of Community Affairs, organized individuals throughout the community to create CBA, which later was adopted by NWF State College. Mr. Hamilton has worked endlessly to build a coalition of municipal partners, volunteers and civic partnerships, all with the purpose of sustaining and providing optimum utilization of the Choctawhatchee Basin Watershed.



Cindy Meadows, Walton County Commissioner

Bob Graham Award



Chris Forman, Emily Ellis, Richard Bryan Lake Powell Community Alliance (LPCA)

Scott Driver Award



Majorie Carr Award



Love Your Lake Cost Share Program

Love Your Lake Deadline March 1, 2009

FLMS has created a cost-share program that funds lake, pond and shoreline projects demonstrating management techniques that help protect, preserve and restore Florida's aquatic resources. Each year FLMS solicits grant proposals describing successful management projects. FLMS will provide matching funds for expenses incurred by the selected applicant. Expenditures may be in the form of labor or monetary contributions utilized in the Proposals program. reviewed by a selection committee based on following criteria:

Monetary or labor match programs encouraging community involvement are strongly recommended.

Location — project must be accessible to the public (may include large communities or neighborhoods—dependent on accessibility).

Signage — educational component explaining project.

Water quality enhancements examples include xeriscaping, lake-water irrigation, environmental berm and swale, and other innovative erosion control techniques.

"Love Your Lake" project proposals must be submitted by March 1, 2009. Projects must be completed by May 1, If you have any questions, please e-mail Ann Shortelle at

abshortelle@mactec.com.

For more details about the "Love Your Lake" cost-share program, please visit www flms net



Editor's Corner

There are all kinds of exciting things happening with FLMS! These include the 2009 FLMS conference in Key Largo and the many new "Love Your Lakes" projects occurring throughout the state

I encourage each of you to get involved with your local chapter. Don't forget to spread the word about our new free student membership to all of the future limnologists out there.

The goal of the FLMS newsletter is to provide a method to inform all FLMS members of the activities and efforts throughout all of Florida. Please let me know of any other upcoming events, conferences or articles that you would like included in the newsletter.

Please send comments and information to: Shannon Carter Wetzel

swetzel@seminolecountyfl.gov





It's Time to Cast Your Vote!

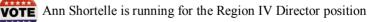
It's time once again to cast your vote for NALMS' officers and directors. We have two representatives from FLMS this

Mark Hoyer is running for the President Elect position









Please show your support for our FLMS members and submit your ballot to the NALMS office via mail or fax by October 26, 2008.

Please go to the NALMS website at www.nalms.org to learn more about the candidates and cast your ballot.





VOTE

VOTE

VOTE

VOTE

















VOTE

VOTE







1st Annual Mattie Kelly **Environmental** Symposium On Choctawhatchee Bay

The Mattie Kelly Environmental Institute. directed by Dr. Allison Beauregard, hosted its first annual Symposium on the Choctawhatchee River and Bay system on June 1st and 2nd, 2008. The institute, which is "dedicated to the cultural, environmental, historical and instructional goals set forth for the institute by the late Mattie M. Kelly of Destin," maintains an important partnership Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance (CBA) of Park waived entrance fees the day of the during the cocktail hour, and Dr. Bob Northwest Florida State College. The CBA is "committed to sustaining and providing optimum utilization of the Choctawhatchee Basin watershed," which encompasses six counties in Northwest Florida and nine in Southern Alabama.

The first day of the symposium was a community and family oriented event at Fred Gannon Rocky Bayou State Park, called the Choctawhatchee Estuary Festival. The Estuary Festival (June 1st) was a successful partnership of the Mattie

Kellv Additionally, several educational booths were on site and various sponsors provided food and supplies in support of the event activities. Fred Gannon Rocky Bayou State

The Mattie Kelly Environmental Institute conducted a photo contest associated with the symposium. Entries focused on the Choctawhatchee River and Bay. Three prize-winners and nine honorable mentions were chosen from 83 photographs entered You can find additional information on in the contest. All twelve winning photographs will be displayed in a calendar that will be available for the year 2009.

On the second day of the symposium, regional scientists met at the Sandestin

Environmental Institute, Hilton Linkside Conference Center to Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance, Florida share 18 oral and 11 poster presentations Lake Management Society, Fred Gannon about the Choctawhatchee River and Bay Rocky Bayou State Park (operated by the system. Presenters represented several FDEP), Friends of Emerald Coast State organizations from around the region, Parks, Inc., and over 25 organizations who including CBA, University of Florida, sponsored exhibits for public viewing. University of West Florida, Choc-Over 700 guests visited the park to tawhatchee River Keepers, Florida Kayakexperience the festival, where they found ing Organization, and Escambia County lots to see and do, including touch tanks, Public Works, just to name a few. All fish t-shirt printing, fiddler crab races, offered valuable insight on varied aspects seining in the bayou, recycling races, of the bay. An impressive crowd of over kayak tours and hikes on the park's trails. 80 people attended the meeting. An elegant banquet followed a satisfying day of scientific information sharing. A chamber ensemble from the Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra (NFSO) performed Richburg, president of Northwest Florida State College, gave the opening remarks. The evening was a wonderful chance for scientists and citizens to come together to discuss common concerns and enjoy each other's company.

> this or the second annual symposium as well as other updates from the Mattie M. Kelly Cultural and Environmental Institute at www.mattiekellyinstitute.org and from CBA at www.basinalliance.org.

Sustainable Water Planning In Florida; The upcoming 2008 Water What Does It Mean For Florida Lakes? Congress: Planning for

Florida's Water Future, hosted by the Century Commission for

a Sustainable Florida, is intended to be an opportunity for public participation in formulating an action plan and policy recommendations for Florida's water needs for the next 50 years. The event will be held in Orlando, Florida, September 25-26, 2008.

Among other items on the conference agenda, the Florida 2030 Task Force has developed nine vision papers to be presented on water supply infrastructure. The Task Force was implemented by the Florida Section of American Water Works Association to address such critically important topics as: climate change, water resources management, surface water, desalination, conservation, reuse, governance/funding, utility/District/FDEP partnership, and water allocation and transfer. The University of Florida's Water Institute and the Florida Lake Management Society are writing technical reviews of these vision papers.

You can find out more and provide input at:

http://www.centurycommission.org/specialevents.asp



Florida Lake Management Society



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Check out the FLMS website for Society updates! www.flms.net

Join FLMS Now!

Annual Dues (Includes Newsletter)
Student / Volunteer FREE
Individual \$25
Non-Profit Organization \$35
Business/Corporate \$65

Contributor \$100

Upcoming Conferences And Workshops

Florida Association of Benthologists 21st Annual Meeting December 8-11, 2008 Plantation Golf Resort, Crystal River, FL

Florida Stormwater Association 2008 Winter Conference December 3-5, 2008 Hyatt Regency, Tampa, FL

2009 Florida Water Resources Conference April 4-8, 2009 West Palm Beach Convention Center



Florida Lake Management Society 2009

Annual Conference

Key Largo Grande Resort and Beach Club

Key Largo, FL

June 8-11, 2009

FLMS is a 501c (3) Tax Exempt Organization – Donations are Tax Deductible

The Florida Lake Management Society (FLMS) is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free within the State, 1-800-435-7352. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State. FLMS receives 100% of each charitable contribution. CH 3578.