



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 since then. Most of all, 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 (Fay) 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 storm-water ponds, ditches, canals, lakes and other waterways in managing the flooding in your area? We would love to hear your 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 LAKEWATCH 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 presented.

A number of award recipients were honored at this year's luncheon. Many of the local recipients are mentioned in the article below. The Edward Deevey, Jr.

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.

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

Dr. Dan Canfield, Director Florida LAKEWATCH



FLMS Honors Local Residents For Their Commitment To Our Aquatic Resources

Several area citizens received awards from the Florida Lake Management Society (FLMS) at the Society's 19th Annual Awards Banquet in Sandestin on June 4, 2008. 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 led 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



Ross Hamilton, Northwest Florida University

Marjorie Carr Award



Love Your Lake Cost Share Program

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 program. Proposals are reviewed by a selection committee based on the 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, 2009. 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.

*Love Your Lake
Deadline
March 1, 2009*



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 year.

Mark Hoyer is running for the President Elect position



Ann Shortelle is running for the Region IV Director 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.





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 with the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance (CBA) of 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

Kelly Environmental Institute, Hilton Linkside Conference Center to share 18 oral and 11 poster presentations about the Choctawhatchee River and Bay system. Presenters represented several organizations from around the region, including CBA, University of Florida, University of West Florida, Choctawhatchee River Keepers, Florida Kayaking Organization, and Escambia County Public Works, just to name a few. All offered valuable insight on varied aspects of the bay. An impressive crowd of over 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 during the cocktail hour, and Dr. Bob 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.

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 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

Kelly Environmental Institute, Hilton Linkside Conference Center to share 18 oral and 11 poster presentations about the Choctawhatchee River and Bay system. Presenters represented several organizations from around the region, including CBA, University of Florida, University of West Florida, Choctawhatchee River Keepers, Florida Kayaking Organization, and Escambia County Public Works, just to name a few. All offered valuable insight on varied aspects of the bay. An impressive crowd of over 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 during the cocktail hour, and Dr. Bob 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.

You can find additional information on 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; What Does It Mean For Florida Lakes?

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>

The upcoming 2008 Water Congress: Planning for Florida's Water Future, hosted by the Century Commission for



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

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