

ALACHUA CONSERVATION TRUST

Gazetteer



“Invertebrates of Florida”

On November 2nd, meet some of Florida's more obscure inhabitants.



PALLID CAVE CRAYFISH *Procambarus pallidus*

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 16 Audubon Fall Bird Count
- 17 Fall Bird Walk
- 22 Sandhill Stage - Passerine

OCTOBER

- 6 Ice Cream Saturday @ Tusawilla Preserve
- 8 Tusawilla Learning Center - Bioblitz
- 10 Rare & Imperiled Species in North Central Florida: Presentation By Megan Wallrichs
- 14 Blues Creek Ravine Hike
- 19 Indigo Snake Conservation: Presentation By Michelle Hoffman
- 21 Sandhill Stage - The New 76ers
- 28 Halloween Ball

NOVEMBER

- 2 Florida Invertebrates: Presentation By Paul Moler
- 4 Tusawilla Native Plant Walk Led By Susan Marynowski
- 11 Aquatic Survey - Seining at Santa Fe River Preserve
- 12 Hike Tusawilla!
- 14 Moths of Hawaii: Presentation By Chris Johns
- 17 Sandhill Stage - The Krickets
- 18 Santa Fe River Preserve GRAND OPENING
- 20 Santa Fe River Preserve Trash Clean Up
- 22 Leave No Trace Awareness Workshop
- 30 Ardisia Round Up

DECEMBER

- 7 Sante Fe River Preserve Trash Clean Up
- 15 Annual Holiday Mingle
- 17 Audubon Christmas Bird Count
- 20 Nature Photography Scavenger Hunt

JANUARY

- 12 Sandhill Stage - Heather Pierson Acoustic Trio
- 13 Winter Bird Walk

FEBRUARY

- 11 Sandhill Stage - Acoustic Eidolon

GET INTO THE CONSERVATION FLOW

Putting ACT in your will, naming ACT as a beneficiary of your retirement account or life insurance policy, or leaving a remainder interest in a property to ACT demonstrates your commitment to future generations of people and wildlife alike.

Joining the monthly giving program not only makes you a Hero for Habitat, but also provides much-needed resources for ACT's environmental education, internship, and recreational programs.

A major gift this year allows you to fund conservation projects in need of immediate support.

ALACHUA CONSERVATION TRUST: THE NATURAL LEADER

Since 1988, the mission of Alachua Conservation Trust (ACT) has been to protect the natural, historic, scenic, and recreational resources in and around Alachua County, Florida. ACT protects land through purchase, donation, and conservation easements.

STAFF

- Tom Kay**, Executive Director
- Ivor Kincaide**, Land Manager
- Lesa Holder**, Office Manager
- Chris Burney**, Project Manager
- Mark Larson**, Assistant Land Manager
- Grace Howell**, WITW Land Mgmt. Specialist
- Melissa Hill**, Project Coordinator
- Justin Caron**, Staff Attorney
- Kathryn Tancig**, Conserv. Land Negotiator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President** - Laurel Nesbit, *Project Manager - Alachua County Crisis Center*
- Vice President** - Kim Davidson, *M.D., Family Practice Doctor*
- Secretary** - Alison Blakeslee, *Private Investigator - Fisher & Blakeslee*
- Treasurer** - Bruce DeLaney, *Asst. VP for Real Estate - UF Foundation, Retired*
- Anne Barkdoll, *Ph.D, Biologist - Florida Div. of Parks & Recreation*
- Bill Bryson, *Publisher/Business Owner*
- Fred Cantrell, *University Business Affairs - UF, Retired*
- Mike Castine, *AICP, Senior Planner - Alachua County Growth Management*
- Robert Christianson, *SJRWMD, Divison Director for Strategic Planning, Retired*
- Bruce DeLaney, *Asst. VP for Real Estate - UF Foundation, Retired*
- Trey Greer, *Associate Director, University Writting Program - UF*
- Richard Hamann, *J.D., Associate in Law, Ctr. for Gov't Responsibility - UF, Retired*
- Pegeen Hanrahan, *P.E. Environmental Consultant*
- Howard Jelks, *Fish Biologist - U.S. Geological Survey*
- Muthusami Kumaran, *Asst. Professor in Dept, of Family, Youth & Community Science - UF*
- Peter NeSmith, *Botanist - Water & Air Research, Inc.*

Alachua Conservation Trust's charitable solicitation number is **CH12693**. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free (800) 435-7352. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State.

ACT is a 501(c)3 non-profit charity and receives no government grants for general operating support; we rely on contributions from private individuals, corporations, and foundations. Donations may be tax deductible, however ACT does not provide tax advice.





The Santa Fe River Needs YOU to Rise Up!

This fall, with your support, 3.25 miles of river frontage and 296 acres along the Santa Fe River in northern Alachua County will be conserved forever. This latest conservation project will become part of the Santa Fe River Preserve. The Santa Fe River Preserve is a cooperative effort between Alachua Conservation Trust (ACT) and Alachua County to protect and restore stretches of the upper Santa Fe River near Worthington Springs, and ACT leads management and acquisition for this project.

With over half (~56%) of the 75-mile length of the Santa Fe in conservation on one or both sides, the river is still in excellent condition and very wild. It continues to act as a key east-west link connecting conservation lands in north central Florida with other parts of the Suwannee River watershed, and is widely inhabited by Florida Black Bear, River Otter, Beaver, Bobcat, Grey Fox, and various species of migratory birds.

Currently, the Santa Fe River Preserve totals 630 acres following the addition of 443 acres in November 2015 to previous acquisitions of 96 acres in 2012 by ACT with a grant from the Florida Communities Trust and private foundations, and the neighboring 90 acres purchased in 2013 by Alachua County. The Santa Fe River Preserve includes high bluffs overlooking the river and a stunning mix of floodplain forest where the New River converges with the Santa Fe. Festooned with uncommon trees such as water elm and river birch, and a profusion of flowering shrubs including wild azalea, its blackwater streams are ideal habitat for Oval Pigtoes, Swamp Darters, and Sailfin Shiners. On the west side of the preserve, Santa Fe Creek also harbors an impressive diversity of trees with towering swamp chestnut oaks and spruce pines interspersed along its slopes.

By Rising Up for the Santa Fe, you will be conserving an additional 3.25 miles of riverfront that further protects the upper Santa Fe River - safeguarding vital water resources for several counties in north central Florida, including Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Gilchrist, Suwannee, and Union.

ACT has already received a \$1.01 million grant from the Florida Communities Trust for this project, and has now started to secure the additional purchase funds from private foundations and ACT supporters just like you. Please Rise up for the Santa Fe today to conserve this outstanding stretch of the river and keep this watershed wild and scenic. We need your support to protect the Santa Fe River forever, and your gift to the Rise Up for the Santa Fe River project will do just that. Swift timing is critical for this project to succeed, so if you have questions about ways to contribute, please call Tom Kay at 352-373-1078 today!

Explore, Enjoy & Celebrate - The Grand Opening of Santa Fe River Preserve

Be a part of conservation history on Saturday, November 18th, by coming out to the Grand Opening of ACT's Santa Fe River Preserve in northern Alachua County. The festivities will kick-off at 10:30 a.m. with special guest speakers, a ribbon cutting and preserve dedication. Enjoy the 630-acre (and expanding) Preserve on a guided hike, paddling or bicycling tour. There will be light refreshments, kids games, and other activities to enjoy. The main entrance to the Preserve is 27615 N. State Road 121 and is located between LaCrosse and Worthington Springs. Come celebrate this conservation success and explore the river, creeks, forests and wetlands that make-up this beautiful landscape.

ROBERT CHRISTIANSON: NEWEST BOARD MEMBER

WELCOME ABOARD!

ACT is extremely pleased to welcome our newest Board member Robert Christianson. Robert has worked in land conservation and water management programs for over 30 years. Beginning in 1993 and until his retirement in 2015, Robert headed up the land acquisition and land management programs at the St. Johns River Water Management District. During that time, he oversaw the acquisition of approximately 450,000 acres of land, 40,000 acres of which are in Alachua County. In addition to spearheading this investment of \$1 billion, Robert also developed the District's land management program from its infancy. Robert has also been extremely interested in cohousing since the 70's, and is part of the Gainesville Cohousing community and extended family, which provides an outlet for so many of his interests and lifestyle goals, allowing him to meet his intentions to live among positive, socially and environmentally active neighbors. Robert's hobbies include travel, backpacking, jogging, cycling and music. Sometimes he just likes to lie in the hammock. We do, too, Robert - welcome aboard!



HOGTOWN BREWERS: PROMOTING THE ART OF BREWING BEER WHILE SUPPORTING LOCAL NON-PROFITS

For six years running, the Hogtown Brewers have generously donated funds from the club's Annual Hogtown Craft Beer Festival proceeds to local charities. ACT is honored to be one of the recipients of their generosity, and in early August, the Hogtown Brewers presented an \$8,000 check to Alachua Conservation Trust at Swamp Head Brewery. These proceeds will be used to conserve land along the upper Santa Fe River and further protect this critical east-west wildlife corridor.

Past funding from the Hogtown Brewers has assisted with conservation land acquisitions at Prairie Creek Preserve, Santa Fe River Preserve, and Little Orange Creek Preserve. They also funded the observation platform at the Little Orange Creek Preserve in Hawthorne.

"The Hogtown Brewers are excited to count ACT among our team of charity partners for 2017. Since beginning the annual Hogtown Craft Beer Festival six short years ago, we have donated over \$132,000 to local charities (\$34,000 this year alone) and our members have been responsible for thousands of volunteer hours in and around Gainesville. Each year, our beer fest committee works diligently and tirelessly to plan a great event and ensure the proceeds we raise find a great home among the many amazing and deserving charities in our community. Alachua Conservation Trust continues to be a great fit for us and wholly encompasses the environmental and philanthropic spirit we pride ourselves upon." - Steve Brosius, Primary, Hogtown Brewers

For more information about the Hogtown Brewers, check out their website at: www.hogtownbrewers.org

2018 marks Alachua Conservation Trust's 30th year of saving land, and to celebrate the conservation successes you've allowed ACT to achieve over three decades, we'll be hosting a number of mini-birthday parties throughout the coming year. We'll have special guest speakers, live music, and - of course - local food & beverages at all of these space-limited events.



We'll also be reflecting on our first 30 years of accomplishments, giving gratitude & guided monthly tours of all of ACT's preserves, and we're especially excited to share our plans with you for the next 30 years of local land conservation. Keep your calendars open - you won't want to miss them as we say THANK YOU for making ACT Florida's Natural Leader in Conservation!

2016 SPRINGS AMBASSADORS CAMP FILM PREMIERS: AT FIRST MAGNITUDE

Despite the sweltering heat and thundering downpour, a crowd of more than 150 friends and supporters gathered inside First Magnitude Brewery's giant warehouse this past June to catch the initial screening of a film that both recaps last year's inaugural Springs Ambassadors Camp and tells the tale of our beloved but beleaguered north central Florida springs. Planned as a significant component of the camp from the start, the film, still in edits, was conceptualized and produced by the Camp's coordinator, Lesley Gamble, with footage shot and edited by former ACT board member Eric Flagg. In addition to Lesley's herculean efforts in bringing the camp and the film to fruition, and to the attendees present who enthusiastically showed their support for both the film and

the program itself, ACT wishes to recognize First Magnitude Brewing, whose December 2016 7.2K Springs Run and year-long yoga events generated \$13K for the Springs Eternal Project and its upcoming 2018 Springs Ambassadors Camp.

Thanks, Christine, John and all of the fine folks at First Magnitude! We will provide a link to the film and details about next year's camp in an upcoming issue of the Gazetteer, so please stay tuned!



GATORS DO GREAT THINGS IN CONSERVATION

The Gator Nation is a passionate community, and they are especially passionate about the conservation of Florida's water and land. Each year, they accomplish many, many great things in conservation! For the many wonderful presentations, workshops and activities UF employees deliver on ACT's behalf as volunteers each year, we thank you; to the countless UF student volunteers and interns who provide vital assistance in helping ACT staff events, conduct research and achieve our land management goals – helping to open four new ACT preserves to the public in just the last five years alone – we deeply thank you. And for the past nine years, as an honored and grateful participant in the University of Florida's Campaign for Charities, we sincerely wish to thank all of the UF faculty and staff who have contributed more than \$165,000 to our organization through their tax-deductible pledge donations. To put it in perspective, with these funds, ACT can:

- Provide the necessary funding for our Santa Fe River Phase II acquisition's costs & long-term management endowment, matching funding for an additional \$1.01M Florida Communities Trust grant to acquire an additional 296 acres on the beautiful Santa Fe River.
- Conduct 9,500 hours of environmental education and internship programming for children and young adults in and around Alachua County.
- Restore an additional 300 acres of industrial forestry land to a natural landscape of longleaf pine and wiregrass.
- Acquire 50 new acres of pristine conservation lands for wildlife and people alike.
- Install 51 new miles of hiking trails at preserves around north central Florida.

So Gators, YOU indeed do great things for conservation in Gainesville, Alachua County and across north central Florida. Please keep making local conservation happen by including your pledge designation of Alachua Conservation Trust during this year's 2017 UF Campaign for Charities! Visit the UF Campaign for Charities website to sign up now: ufcc.ufl.edu/pledge-now/



GATORS GIVE

KATHRYN TANCIG: CONSERVATION LAND NEGOTIATOR

In early 2017, ACT was awarded the Alachua County contract to negotiate conservation acquisitions on its behalf utilizing funds generated by 2016's extremely successful Wild Spaces & Public Places sales tax initiative. To fulfill that role, we're fortunate to have attorney Kathryn Tancig on our team. Kathryn is a Gainesville native who has cultivated a deep sense of passion for conserving land in Alachua County. She's a UF Natural Resources and Environment graduate, with a BA, magna cum laude, in Environmental Science and a minor in Soil and Water Science.

To gain a deeper understanding of the American legal system and the regulations affecting environmental resources, Kathryn attended Vermont Law School, the nation's top ranked environmental law program, and after receiving her Juris Doctor, cum laude, she returned to Florida in 2012. Before joining ACT, Kathryn litigated child support cases for the Florida Department of Revenue, and practiced law as an associate attorney in the real estate and litigation departments at Salter, Feiber, P.A.

Kathryn will be working for ACT on behalf of the County Parks and Conservation Lands Department to negotiate and purchase approximately \$60 – \$150 million of conservation lands around Alachua County. ACT is honored, through Kathryn's work, to be a partner in this process.

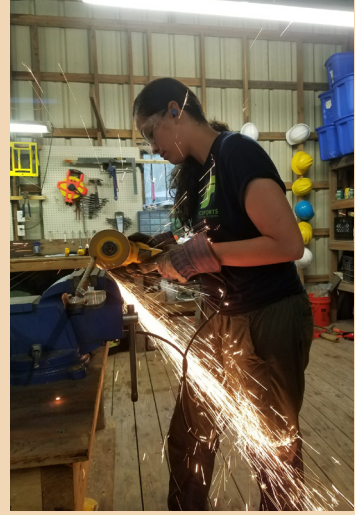
WELCOME TO THE TEAM!



WOMEN IN THE WOODS:

EQUIPPING YOUNG WOMEN CONSERVATIONISTS FOR CAREERS IN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

After a very successful “soft launch” of the Women in the Woods internship program this summer, we’re fully geared up for our new fall semester of interns to jump right into a wide variety of hands-on learning opportunities at ACT! To that end, please join us in welcoming new Land Management Specialist Grace Howell, who will take the lead on this innovative training program. Grace will be working with land management staff, interns and volunteers to carry out restoration and natural resource management goals on all of ACT’s conservation properties. Having been inspired and encouraged by a number of passionate conservationists herself, Grace looks forward to sharing her land stewardship skills and knowledge with young professionals through the Women in the Woods internship program. She is especially excited to share her own journey in the field of land management with these budding natural resource professionals. Grace is a North Florida native and lifelong nature lover who graduated from the University of Florida with a B.S. in Natural Resource Conservation and worked in the City of Gainesville’s nature parks for 9 years, first as an environmental educator and then as a land manager and biologist before coming to work at Alachua Conservation Trust. She is a native plant enthusiast, amateur botanist, fire ecology advocate, and Certified Prescribed Burn Manager.



GRACE HOWELL

Grace’s plans for this semester’s crop of fresh interns include continued longleaf pine planting and restoration activities at Little Orange Creek, developing user friendly trails and boardwalks, and providing environmental outreach programs for East Gainesville Afterschool Science Clubs. Women in the Woods interns will operate in tandem and with ACT’s regular internship program, offering a wide range of land management experience for all participants. On her approach to this program, Grace says she believes that love of nature and excitement about conservation and natural resource management is like a contagious bug that is easily caught, but pursuing a career in the field requires empowerment through skill building, critical thinking and hands-on learning. She is thrilled for the opportunity to encourage and teach young female natural resource professionals who are often intimidated or discouraged from pursuing rugged, traditionally male-dominated career paths. Grace attributes much of her own enthusiasm to the patience and generosity of the people who instructed, explained, discussed, and demonstrated ecological concepts, taught her the names of plants, put a drip torch in her hand, taught her how to drive a tractor and haul a trailer, and who instilled the art of careful observation in the field. If you’d like to learn more about ACT’s Women in the Woods internship program or become a project supporter, contact Grace Howell directly by email at act.graceh@gmail.com.

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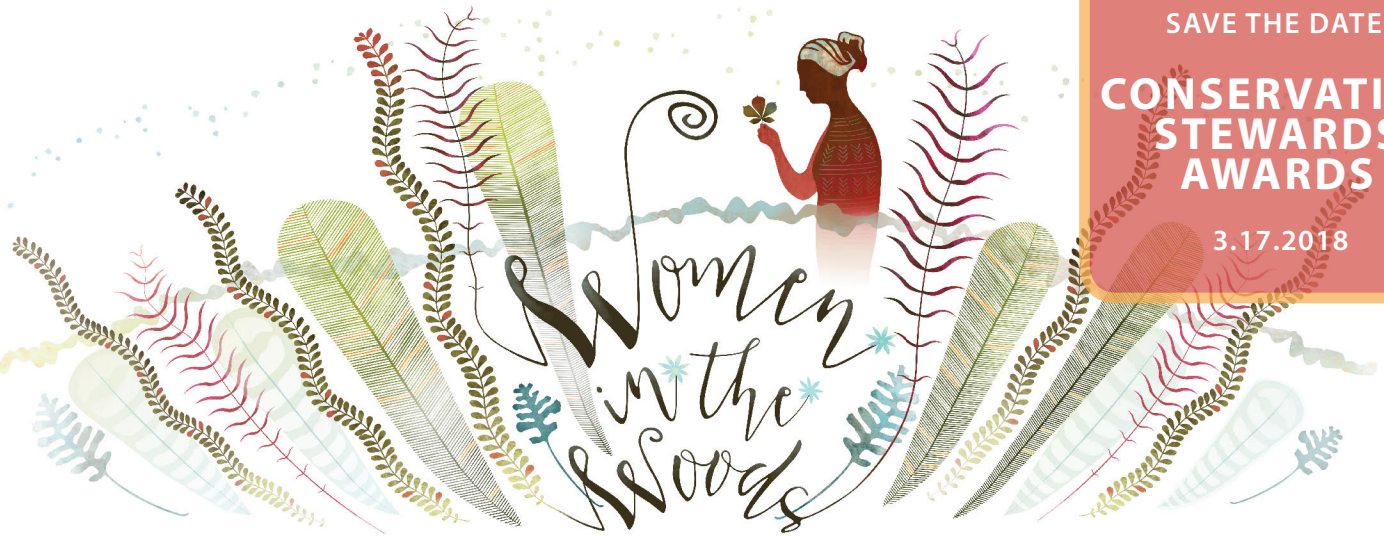
JUSTIN CARON

With a bittersweet farewell, ACT wishes staff attorney Jen Lomberg good luck as she casts off into her new position as the Matanza Riverkeeper. Thanks to Jen’s help, the Coastal Conservation Easement Project has seen great success in its initial year, and we know her skills as an attorney, kindness as a person, and amazing work ethic in general will serve the citizens of St. Johns County well. Taking over Jen’s role as ACT’s new staff attorney is Justin Caron, a recent graduate of the University of Florida’s Levin College of Law who will also be working in partnership with the UF Law Conservation Clinic. As a longtime resident of Merritt Island, Justin is passionate about preserving sea turtle nesting sites on the beaches of Brevard County and all across the State of Florida. Together with project coordinator Melissa Hill, the Coastal Conservation Easement Project team is once again complete and ready to tackle the second and final year of this pilot project. Our project’s first year was a great success, with completion of a statewide survey of coastal property owners, a stakeholder workshop in Melbourne, many new connections with property owners, and the execution of a variety of meetings and conferences. Entering year two, we’re excited to continue towards our ultimate goal of establishing coastal conservation easements on properties with sea turtle nesting habitat which, we hope, will eventually pave the way for a larger initiative allowing other land trusts and local governments to use our project model to protect sea turtle nest sites across the state. Our first easement was recorded early this fall, and we are in ongoing negotiations with land-owners from the Keys to the Panhandle! Though nesting season is drawing to a close, we’re just ramping up our efforts, and by next March when sea turtles make their way back onto Florida’s sandy beaches, they just might be the first to land on their very own coastal conservation easement!

A CHANGING TIDE:

FOND FAREWELLS & COASTAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT UPDATES

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SAVE THE DATE
CONSERVATION STEWARDS AWARDS
 3.17.2018

2017 CORPORATE SPONSORS

Live Oak



CRANE RAMEN



No. 9 Productions

Longleaf Pine



Salter-Feiber
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



EAST END EATERY

Cypress



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LAND SURVEYING



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SWALLOWTAIL FARM



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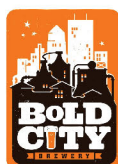
Edward La Combe
VOYA
VOYA FINANCIAL ADVISORS

JONES EDMUNDS

Tupelo



Wiregrass



we are
neutral

CIVILIZATION

Mosswood Farm
Store & Bakehouse
MICANOPY, FL





ALACHUA CONSERVATION TRUST

7204 SE COUNTY ROAD 234
GAINESVILLE, FL 32641



Saturday, Oct. 28th 6PM

FIRST MAGNITUDE
BREWING CO.

RISE UP
FOR THE SANTA FE RIVER
HALLOWEEN 2017

BENEFIT FOR THE SANTA FE RIVER