



August 2022

Board Meeting August 9 Zoom

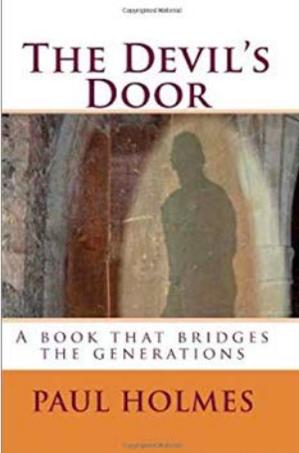
Website <http://peacriveraudubon.org>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PRASaudubon>

WhiteBird PRAS Monthly Newsletter

Past President Series Paul Holmes

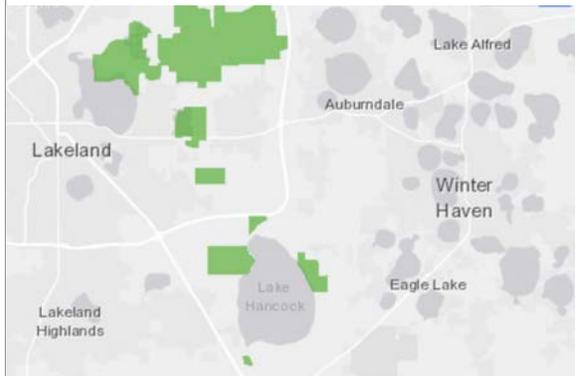
Paul Holmes (1938-2021), one of our chapter's past presidents and creator of Eco-voice wrote a number of children's books mainly for his grandson who lived in his native country of Great Britain. He ventured into a full length novel with "The Devil's Door" an adventure into the realm of fantasy a little like the Harry Potter's novels. "The Devil's Door," follows a boy who comes to live in Florida with his parents



when he's only a few months old. Five years later, the boy is sent back to his birthplace in England to live with his grandparents. His grandfather, as it turns out, is a descendant of the knights of the round table. And when he grows up, the boy embarks on a quest to rescue ancient documents — and ultimately save the world. The sequel continues the perilous adventure when the hero buys an island off the coast of Florida. Both books are available at Amazon.

Important Bird Areas of the Upper Peace River

Part One of The History of the Peace River Series: The Peace River cuts through 100+ miles of an area known as Bone Valley picking up sediments and fossils from prehistoric millennia. Although it is nourished by springs, it is primarily a blackwater river - a dark brew of leaf detritus, organic acids and tannins distilled from the peaty soils of the wetlands and forests through which it flows. Some of the bird species that can be



seen are: Great Egret
Little Blue Heron
Northern Parula
Glossy Ibis
White Ibis
American Redstart
Prairie Warbler
Snowy Egret
Swallow-tailed Kite

Tennessee Warbler, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Prothonotary Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler.

Many important bird areas are found in the upper region of the Peace River:

- Circle-B Bar Reserve, 513 ha
- Fort Meade Recreation Area, 330 ha
- IMC-Agrico Peace River Park, 178 ha
- Lake Hancock, 1842 ha
- Saddle Creek County Park, 283 ha
- Saddle Creek Sanctuary, 127 ha
- Teneroc Fish Management Area, 2980 ha

<https://www.audubon.org/important-bird-areas/lake-hancock-upper-peace-river>

In 2004 the Peace River Audubon raised \$1,000+ thru the Banquet Silent Auction and Olson Garage Sale for the Scrub Jay Habitat Conservation Fund. Now there is a way to continue saving our endemic specie!

Conservancy Fund Raiser for Florida Scrub Jay Habitat Deadline is August 8



Charlotte County land:

3 lots on Flarian Drive = \$12,000

3 lots on Diplomat Drive = \$12,000

ANY donation increment is
WELCOME!

**THANKS TO A GENEROUS
ANONYMOUS DONOR
ALL DONATIONS
BETWEEN \$25 AND \$1,000
WILL BE MATCHED!**

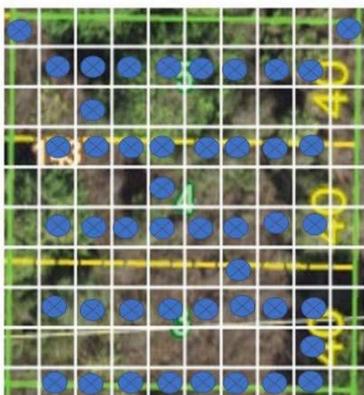
Diplomat Drive/Washington Street Neighborhood (3 lots)



120 donations of \$100 = \$12,000 raised!

♥ = Gopher Tortoise burrow

Flarian Drive/Broadpoint Drive Neighborhood (3 lots)



Purchase price \$12,000

120 Squares - Each Square is worth \$100

You're invited to help save 1.5 acres in Harbour Heights with existing populations of Scrub Jays or Gopher Tortoises as natural habitat. <https://gofund.me/513a107b>

Harbour Heights hosts some small populations of the threatened Florida Scrub Jay and Gopher Tortoise. These species are rapidly losing scrub habitat as our human population continues to grow. Florida Scrub Jays are cooperative breeders who occupy territories in many patches of land not contained in the larger preserved tract of the Charlotte County Scrub Jay Plan. The Environmental Conservancy of NP and surrounding areas is preserving land parcels as "stepping stones" or contiguous parcels of conservation land. Natural habitats provide travel corridors for wildlife to disperse which can bring greater genetic diversity to existing populations; thereby, maintaining a more durable sustainability.

On June 14th the Charlotte County Commissioners confirmed that the Conservancy is included among the winning surplus auction bidders on 6 lots which are divided into two 3-lot sets for \$12,000 each for a total purchase price of \$24,000 (\$4,000 per lot). The deadline to raise the funds is August 8th.

WHERE

Diplomat Drive/Washington Street Neighborhood (\$12,000)

Flarian Drive/Broadpoint Drive Neighborhood (\$12,000)

Donations received are recorded via the "Bingo Card" style maps shown to the left (each box on each parcel map represents a \$100 donation). The CNP website and Facebook page will show periodic updates.

Once each card is filled, NATURE WINS, and the Conservancy will purchase and protect the parcels!