

CURRENTS

The Newsletter of The Bahamas National Trust

Volume 11 Number 1

March 1994

1994 Marks BNT 35th Anniversary

It was 35 years ago this July that Parliament passed The Bahamas National Trust Act. This legislation created the country's first and only national organization charged with natural resource conservation and historic preservation.

To celebrate this milestone The Trust has organized several special events for the year...

- "Strength In Numbers" Campaign - Help us double our membership this year and win some great prizes while you're at it! See page 10 for more details.

- "Discovery Club" - A special club just for young members of The Trust has been established. If your child is between 5 and 12 years of age make sure they become a member of this exciting program. See page 5 for more details.

- "National Trust Week" - Planned for the summer, this week-long event will include exhibitions, contests, special speakers, a BNT 35th Anniversary newspaper supplement and much more. Watch your mail for more details.

- Art & Wine Festival - A very special Festival is being planned to celebrate our 35th Anniversary. Make sure you reserve that first weekend in November!

- Come and "Rumble in The Jungle" this fall when the BNT hosts an anniversary bash with a new twist. Watch your mail for details!

(see page 10)

Lynn Holowesko Named Deputy Chair of World Commission on National Parks

Lynn Holowesko was appointed Deputy Chairman of IUCN's Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas (CNPPA) during IUCN's General Assembly in January. CNPPA is the largest worldwide network of protected area managers and specialists. It comprises over 600 members in 150 countries. One of six voluntary Commissions of IUCN, CNPPA seeks to promote the establishment and effective management of a worldwide network of terrestrial and marine protected areas.

BNT at IUCN General Assembly

The 19th Session of the IUCN General Assembly convened in Buenos Aires, Argentina between 19th - 26th January, 1994. Among the nearly 1500 delegates were Lynn Holowesko, BNT immediate past President, and Gary Larson, BNT Executive Director.

IUCN is a union of sovereign states, government agencies, and non-governmental organizations. With more than 778 members in 127 countries, 67 of which are full State Members, IUCN is the largest and most influential international conservation body in existence. It seeks to work with its members to achieve development that is sustainable and that provides a lasting improvement in the quality of life for people all over the world.

The Bahamas National Trust has been a member of IUCN since 1968.

In Argentina the delegates faced a number of critical issues over the course of the 10-day sessions. Among these were the challenge of defining sustainability and measuring efforts to attain it, sustainable use of renew-

(see page 9)



BNT Pulse



This section is new to "Currents" and has been introduced to give our members a sampling of the myriad of issues and activities in which The Trust is involved. Members wanting more information on any topic are welcome to contact BNT Headquarters.

Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) for development projects around the country have become a priority area for the BNT. After years of being excluded from the process Government now seeks The Trust's involvement on an increasing level. This is a critical but very time-consuming activity in which The Trust is involved on an on-going basis...

With the cooperation and support of the major dive operators on New Providence and several Family Islands the BNT is discussing further protection of **Marine Protected Areas** in The Bahamas. Dive sites of outstanding beauty will be identified and placed under the protective management of the BNT. The development of such a network of protected areas will be established with the support of local communities. The idea has approval in principle from the Department of Fisheries...

Abaco National Park is still not a reality. Although approval for the park was announced by the Prime Minister in October of 1992 no

agreement on the boundaries has been reached. The Trust recently submitted a revised proposal to the Ministry of Agriculture showing multiple benefits from the establishment of the Park. In November 1994 BNT Council resolved there be no reduction in the acreage sought...



Because of the delay in formalising this park The Bahamas lost a great opportunity for international funding and technical assistance. **RARE Center for Tropical Conservation** had offered their new and highly acclaimed Trail Manual to the BNT for implementation in the Abaco Park. The Trust will approach RARE again once the boundaries have been established...



The **Revision of Fisheries Regulations** consumed much time during 1993. At the invitation of the Department of Fisheries BNT Executive Director and President have been involved in a clause by clause review. Every aspect of Fisheries was covered. In some cases decisions were made

with out the agreement of the BNT. In these cases The Trust's objections were stated clearly for future reference. The revised regulations are making the legal rounds and will hopefully be presented to the House soon...

Lynn Holowesko recently attended a **Commission of the European**

Union (formerly the European Economic Community or EEC) Workshop at Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. The purpose of the meeting was to address strategies, principles and guidelines for European Union action in supporting protected area development in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Regions. Mrs. Holowesko returned with critical information on how best to utilise available European funding for projects here in The Bahamas...

Protecting the last wild places on New Providence, saving historic sites and ruins, and pushing for the sustainable development of ecotourism on the country's capital island have been items of the highest priority for **BNT President Pericles Maillis**. Mr. Maillis, one of the most knowledgeable people on the natural history of The Bahamas has compiled a map of N.P. which contains all of its outstanding and rare features. The **'Pericles Map'** has been used extensively at numerous BNT and Government meetings on development, planning and ecotourism. Mr. Maillis and BNT staff members are working on finalising the map. The collection of information contained on the map is unprecedented and has become critical in discussions at high levels on the future development of New Providence...

Residents of Lake Cunningham area have teamed up with the BNT to save **Burnside Cay** from rezoning and development. The Cay sits prominently in the middle of Lake Cunningham and provides an important habitat for native and wintering waterfowl. A fund for the eventual purchase of

the Cay has been started. Lake Cunningham is listed as a protected area under the Wildbirds Protection Act...

Sandra Buckner, The Trust's Wildlife Committee Chairman, recently attended the **Second World Congress of Herpetology** in Adelaide, Australia. The Congress brought together herpetologists from many countries and provided a forum for discussion of such issues as biodiversity and the use of amphibians and reptiles as indicators of environmental degradation. Several scientists who have been conducting extensive research in The Bahamas presented papers on their findings at the Congress...



SECOND WORLD CONGRESS OF HERPETOLOGY AUSTRALIA 1993-1994

Ecotourism continues to be an area of major concern for The Trust. The **Ministry of Tourism** has seconded to The Trust Keva Hanna Lawrence, MOT's Senior Manager Ecotourism & Heritage Tourism. She will liaise with the BNT and Tourism for further development of ecotourism in The Bahamas...

Property Donations to The National Trust continue to increase. Most recently property on New Providence, in the Abacos, and North Eleuthera has been given to The Trust...

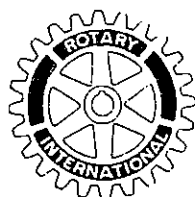
The Bahamas will host the **World Congress on Adventure Travel & Ecotourism** in 1995. As the host country for next year's gathering The Bahamas is required to participate at a very specific level

at the 1994 Congress in Sidney, Australia. BNT and Tourism officials have begun preparations...

As a result of contacts made by Pericles Maillis at the U.N. Biodiversity Conference in Norway last year many scientists and biodiversity specialists convened in Nassau in October for an in depth look at **Island Biodiversity**

The team identified major studies needed on island ecosystems in the context of the **Biodiversity Convention**. Of particular concern to participants are statistics showing the decline in island biodiversity. A recent study concluded that as much as 32% of island ecosystem phytomass worldwide is now non-native, compared with just 12% in continental ecosystems...

The Trust has entered into discussion and submitted a preliminary proposal to the **Rotary Club of Ontario, Canada** regarding the construction of a nature center on New Providence and the implementation of additional environmental education programs for



Bahamian schoolchildren. The venture comes as a result of Rotary's Environmental Education Lifeline (REEL) which seeks to fund environmental education programs in developing countries for the specific benefit of the youth of that country...

Adelaide Creek Restoration continues. Recently **Syntex Pharma-**

ceuticals Ltd. of Freeport, G.B. donated 200 drums to the Adelaide community. These have been painted with the BNT name and Adelaide logo and are being used by residents for garbage bins. The **Ministry of Works** has committed 4 full time workers to Adelaide and more work on the creek mouth is scheduled for the coming months...

The Trust continues to work on protection of the **"Primeval Forest"** in western New Providence. With professional help from Florida and the invaluable assistance of local BNT members the forest will be inventoried and a data base created by which management decisions will be guided. Trails and interpretive material will be created without destroying the beauty and biodiversity of the property...

It was with considerable regret that The National Trust and the Ministry of Agriculture decided to remove the surviving seven **West Indian flamingos** from San Salvador and relocate them to the BNT Rand Nature Center in Freeport, G.B. The flamingos had been placed on San Salvador in 1992 as part of the Quincentennial celebrations. The ecosystem in which the flamingos were placed did not provide enough food source to sustain the colony...

Member of

IUCN

The World Conservation Union

The National Trust has been a member of IUCN since 1968.

BNT Undertakes National Conservation Strategy

For over ten years The National Trust has tried to develop a National Conservation Strategy for The Bahamas. One of the essential ingredients of the strategy would be an ecological assessment (EA) of all the natural resources in the country. The road block, as always, has been the lack of funding.

This year the Trust was successful in acquiring grants from the Curtis and Edith Munson Foundation and the Henry Foundation, both in the U.S. These grants will be matched by the BNT itself and together will provide funding for the first phase of the assessment - an organizational workshop.

The principal investigators in the EA will be Dr. G. Carleton Ray and Alexander (Sandy) Sprunt IV, both of whom have a 30-plus year history with The Bahamas and The National Trust. Dr. Ray was a member of the original Exuma expedition in 1955 which resulted in the formation of the Exuma Cays Land & Sea Park. He has been a scientific advisor to BNT Council ever since.

Sandy Sprunt is a former Audubon Society Vice President and Director of Research. He has represented the National Audubon Society on Council for thirty years. As principal investigators Ray and Sprunt will organize and direct the technical-scientific work as well as write up the assessment results.

The ecological assessment will identify, systematically locate and quantify resources. Many resulting short term end products are envisioned as a result of the accumulation of data, including policy statements on the resources themselves, identification of "hot spots" or critical habitats which represent significant national biodiversity units, data on population levels and distribution, and data-backed proposals for the establishment of more national parks and protected areas around the country.

The most important long term goal is the establishment of a National Conservation Strategy which would utilize the scientific resource data acquired through the EA and incorporate with it social, economic, political and developmental realities.

The resulting National Conservation Strategy will be a valuable tool in guiding The Bahamas not only towards sustainable development but sustainable living.

Phase I got underway in March when BNT President Pericles Maillis and BNT Executive Director Gary Larson, together with Carleton Ray and Sandy Sprunt, convened a five-day workshop in the Exuma Cays Land & Sea Park. The workshop brought together specialists from The Bahamas and overseas who determined the methods and schedule of the assessment. The workshop report is currently being prepared and Phase II will be initiated after the report is finished and the funding is secured.

Official AGM Notice

The 1994 Annual General Meeting of The Bahamas National Trust will be held on Thursday, 21st April at "The Retreat" Village Road, Nassau, Bahamas at 6 o'clock in the evening.

Members of The Bahamas National Trust are reminded of the following provisions of The Bahamas National Trust Act:

(a) "Notice of any motion proposed to be made at a general meeting by any person not being a member of Council shall be sent to the Secretary of The Bahamas National Trust fourteen (14) days before the general meeting. Such notices shall be signed by a proposer and two seconders being members of The Bahamas National Trust and no motion made by any member other than a member of Council shall be entertained by a general meeting unless notice thereof has been given as aforesaid".

(b) Nine (9) members of the Council "shall be elected annually from among the members at the Annual General Meeting of The Bahamas National Trust".

Please make a very special effort to attend this vital annual meeting. Your contributions and support will ensure the continued success of The Bahamas National Trust.

Young Members' Discovery Club Off to Flying Start

Discovery Club, the new BNT young members program was launched at the 1994 Open House. The reintroduction of the program for young members is part of the special activities and events the Trust has planned for its 35th Anniversary. BNT Assistant Executive Director and Director of Education Susan Larson said, "the program is designed to provide clean, green fun for young members of The Trust while increasing their awareness of the environment and environmental issues". Children between the ages of 5 and 12 are eligible to join. Annual member-

ship dues are \$10. Kids will receive a copy of the bi-monthly newsletter *Discovery*, a *Discovery Club* certificate, the regular membership card of the BNT and are privy to the special membership incentives from businesses around town. The 1994 program will include four field adventures, special Friday night activities, environmental competitions and lots of fun!

If your kids are in this age group make sure you sign them up. "Discovery Club" promises to be a great and worthwhile adventure for your children!



Support for BNT Comes in all Shapes and Sizes: During an average week "The Retreat" has visitors of all kinds. Earlier this school year Reception/Burnside of St. Andrew's School adopted The National Trust as their yearbook theme and then made a special trip to the gardens. The class toured the grounds, participated in several environmental activities, took part in environmental story-telling, picnicked in the "Cathedral", and posed for their yearbook picture at the Monument Circle. The gardens and The Trust's Reference Library are used more and more by tourists, teachers, and students of all ages. Anyone wishing more information on using these resources should contact Lynn Gape, The Trust's Public Relations and Education Officer at 393-1317

Open House

Open House '94 was again held on the last Saturday in January. For the first time the event was spread into more areas of the gardens and even the most faithful members saw things for the first time.

One of the highlights of the day was Children's Crafts. Several hundred youngsters spent hours in the Pergola emersed in craft making. The Trust is indebted to Aven Roberts and her band of volunteers for braving the relentless enthusiasm of the children for seven un-interrupted hours! Our thanks also go to the sponsors of that activity, including City Markets, Ltd., Home Fabrics, and John S. George, Ltd. - we couldn't have done it without them!

Live performances were given by the "Environmental Troubadours" a U.S. duo who use folksongs to deliver environmental messages. Their lively performances were a great hit with kids and parents alike. The Trust is grateful to our very generous corporate supporters - Rotary Club of East Nassau, and Resorts International - for making the Troubadour's visit to The Bahamas possible.

The day was rounded off with a host of other activities. Donkey rides, children's storytelling, educational displays by BNT Committees, and a day-long schedule of video films added to the fun.

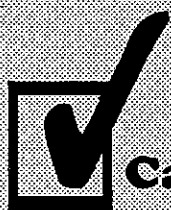
Perhaps the most significant outcome of the day was with new members. XX people joined The Trust at Open House - our very highest return for this annual event.

The Naturalist Is Back!

One of the highlights of 1993 was the reintroduction of the *Bahamas Naturalist*, the magazine of The Bahamas National Trust. Originally introduced in 1975 as a scientific journal for BNT members and the scientific community, the *Naturalist* had spent ten years out of print.

The content of the "new" publication is done with BNT members in mind. The magazine contains highly readable, informative articles with scientific content greatly toned down.

The Trust is accepting transcripts for future issues of the *Bahamas Naturalist*. These should be approximately 2,500-3,000 words and should include captioned illustrations/photographs. Final selection of articles will be determined by the Editor to ensure a well-balanced issue. Anyone interested in more information on the *Bahamas Naturalist* should contact the BNT.



Mark Your Calendar!

April 16 - Discovery Club Field Adventure "Back to Nature" at the Adelaide home of BNT President Pericles Maillis. Discovery Club is for young BNT members (5-12 years).

April 21 - Annual General Meeting at "The Retreat", Village Road. Join us for this special 35th Anniversary Meeting.

Bahamas Birdwatch '93

Discovery Day Weekend 1993 saw the reintroduction of a BNT old time favorite activity. Under the chairmanship of Mrs. Sandra Buckner the Trust's Wildlife Committee organized Birdwatch '93. This national event was held in conjunction with World Birdwatch, a worldwide educational event coordinated by BirdLife International and designed to raise public awareness about bird populations and conservation issues.

Over one hundred enthusiasts recorded 118 different birds on



New Providence, Abaco, Grand Bahama, Andros, Long Island, and The Exumas. A report of the day's activities and results of the survey were sent to BirdLife International. Their response: "both

the activities themselves and the report were among the most outstanding we have received."



Birders on Paradise Island were treated to a close-up look of a Burrowing Owl!

As a result of the interest and enthusiasm shown for this event, the Wildlife Committee has organized an Ornithology Group. Anyone interested in helping organize more Birdwatches and with bird matters generally should contact Carolyn Wardle at 363-1574.

Educational Encounters

The Trust's Public Education Committee finished off 1993 with a great slate of public meetings. Dr. Paul Hearty, lecturer in geology at The College of The Bahamas, delivered a slide presentation "New Perspectives on the Geology of the Bahamas" to a full house at The Retreat. "Close Encounters of the Marine Kind" introduced our members and the general public to Nassau's newest ecotourism experience - Atlantis Submarines. "The Eyes of Andros", a fascinating look at the blueholes of Andros, was presented by Professor Jerry F.

Downhower of Ohio State University. Dr. Downhower explained that each bluehole truly is a window into the geological history of The Bahamas.

1994 has already gotten off to a great start with the premiere of "Nassau Over the Hill" and herpetologist Dr. John Iverson presenting, "An Island Does a Monster Make"! Watch your mail for details of future events.

Any member interested in becoming active in this area of The Trust's work should contact Lynn Gape at 393-1317. Your help is needed!



Popularity Grows for Art & Wine Festival

Our annual Art & Wine Festival is now firmly established as a BNT tradition. November 6 was a beautiful day. Members and visitors to the garden were treated to a superb selection of wines and an exceptional collection of art. A great time was had by all!

Diane Holowesko and George Kelly (pictured left and right above respectively) continue to be the key organisers of this Festival. Diane's dedication to producing a quality event is clearly evident in the success our Art & Wine Festivals have enjoyed. The Trust is indebted to her for her hard work. The Trust is sincerely grateful to Wholesale Wines & Spirits and its Managing Director George Kelly for their exemplary support. The festival is an enormous event to organise and could not possibly be considered were it not for their generosity.



"Jollification" A Lovely Event

The weekend of December 4th and 5th 1993 saw "The Retreat" transformed into a garden of Christmas delights. Under the very creative direction of Co-Chairmen Mrs. Godfrey Higgs and Mrs. Frank Hazelwood, the BNT Retreat Committee hosted a holiday festival complete with carolers, Christmas foods, "sleigh" rides, and one of the most impressive collections of crafts, decorations and gifts items ever assembled under one roof.

Longbranch Artists and Artisans joined the Committee in making

it a truly Bahamian Christmas celebration.

The Trust is indebted to Mrs. Higgs and Mrs. Hazelwood, both of whom spent many months planning and coordinating the event. Their dedication to The National Trust over the years has been outstanding and is very much appreciated.

The Trust also extends its thanks to Mrs. Simonetta Raymond Barker and Longbranch Artists & Artisans for all their hard work in contributing to the success of the event.

Corporate Support for BNT Increases

The National Trust's Corporate Member list was increased recently with the additions of **Barclays Bank, PLC** and **Shell Bahamas Ltd.** As Corporate Members Barclays and Shell join a growing list of businesses in the community that, in addition to many other ways, show their support for The National Trust through substantial annual dues. The Trust is honored to have Barclays and Shell endorse its work through its membership program.

In September of last year the President and Officers of The Trust hosted a reception at "The Retreat" especially for the business community. The evening was quite successful and will be the first of many such functions to reach out to specific sectors of the community.

Corporate sponsorship continues to be critical to The Trust's work. **Guardian Life** recently presented the BNT with a cheque for \$2,500 to be used to supplement projects currently underway. **Vita Malt** has pledged to underwrite the cost of our in-production "A-Z of Bahamian Wildlife and Wild Places". The **Rotary Club of East Nassau** continues one of the highest levels of sponsorship in many Trust activities.

In the past 18 months almost 50 local business have contributed the equivalent of tens of thousands of dollars to the work of The National Trust. The Trust is deeply indebted to each for their confidence in our organisation and their support of our work.

News From Our National Parks

GRAND BAHAMA...

Rick and Kathy Oliver have joined the staff of The National Trust as curators at The Rand Nature Center in Freeport, Grand Bahama. For the past 3 years the Olivers were the curators of the Ardastra Gardens. Both are graduates of the University of Florida, Gainesville, with degrees in forest resources and conservation, majoring in wildlife ecology. The Olivers will work with Dawn Hutton, BNT Administrator in G.B., in developing the Center to its full education and tourism potential.

The Rand Nature Center has started a monthly program of nature walks/birdwatching. The walks will be held on the first Saturday of each month beginning at 7 am.

EXUMA...

A new, fully equipped 21' Paramount Superfisherman, complete with a 225 hp engine, was recently donated to the Exuma Cays Land & Sea Park courtesy of the Mactaggart Family and Tom Lawson. The new boat adds badly-needed power to the Parks' anti-poaching equipment. The Trust is indebted to the Mactaggart Family for their continued support of The Bahamas National Trust.

On land things are looking up too, thanks to the Women's Corona Society of Nassau. The Society recently donated a wind generator to the headquarter building on Waderick Wells. The BNT extends its warm thanks to the Society for their generosity!

There is now a great cruising guide to the Exuma Park. The 75 page book has been beautifully compiled by Steve and Kelly Pavlidis and Warden Ray

Darville. The guide has a wealth of information about the Park - flora, fauna, historical features, etc. The book is available at the Park Headquarters in Exuma and the BNT headquarters in Nassau. It will soon be available in book and marine stores.

Recently several private cays in the Park have been placed on the market. In response The Trust has launched a major fund-raising effort with the goal purchasing islands as they are put up for sale. A primary goal is to raise \$300,000 for a deposit on Bell Island, one of the most beautiful cays in the Park. The owner has generously offered the island to The Trust at the price he paid for it 20 years ago.

Part of The Trust's campaign to raise funds includes a beautifully produced 12 minute video on the Park. Generously produced at no cost to the BNT by Hal Lee of Tremolino Productions the video markets the Exuma Park and the need for funds to help protect it in a truly professional fashion. For a donation of \$100 or more to the property acquisition fund members can have a free copy of the video.

INAGUA...

News from the Bahamian "down-under" is good. One of the biggest flocks of flamingos remembered nested in February. BNT Wardens are keeping a vigilant eye over the birds at this critical stage of their life cycle. Inagua National Park is one of the most priceless national treasures in The Bahamas. At present an estimated 50,000 flamingos nest there making it the largest breeding colony of West Indian flamingos in the world.

The "Island Heritage" Collection is the most complete set of drawings on the architecture of The Bahamas by a single artist. Two days before last Christmas it was acquired by The Bahamas National Trust through the generosity of many supporters. The Collection comprises 112 original pen and ink drawings on



the historical heritage of New Providence and the Family Islands between 1710 -1940. The collection represents the untiring efforts of architect Robert Douglas.

The National Trust is indebted to the major contributors which include:

**Lloyds Bank International
Mees Pierson
Commonwealth Brewery**

Many other contributors made the acquisition possible. The Trust extends its thanks to each: Sunco, Alexiou & Associates, Commonwealth Building Supplies, Deloitte & Touche, Ernst & Young, Bahamas Marine Construction, The Tribune, Graham Thompson & Co., Graycliff Restaurant, Hill York, Ltd., Nassau Hotel & Restaurant Supplies, Osprey Developers, Quality Auto Sales, Rentokil, and Lady Margaret Symonette.

The collection is being temporarily displayed at The Pompey Museum, Bay Street.

BNT and Longline Fishing

A major conservation victory was achieved in December of last year when Parliament stopped longline fishing in The Bahamas. The decision came as a result of months of research, discussion, debate and public involvement.

The Trust was activated by the Prime Minister's request for BNT input. Many weeks of research resulted in The Trust's recommendation to ban longlining in The Bahamas. BNT Council unanimously endorsed this position in May and directed the BNT administration to continue its research and form a coalition to rally public support.

During the summer The Trust completed its position paper and spearheaded the formation of the Coalition to Stop Longlining. As the BNT was already involved with the Department of Fisheries in revising Fisheries regulations that forum was also used to put forward the position of The Trust



and the Coalition on longlining.

An intensive media campaign was launched. Radio and television commercials, mail-outs, press releases, interviews and public speaking engagements were used to carry the anti-longline message to every sector of the community.

The Trust also continued its dialogue directly with the Prime Minister. The Trust is pleased that the mutual respect between the BNT and the Prime Minister was very much enhanced as a result of the longline issue.

In early December Parliament voted to make longline fishing illegal in The Bahamas without a special permit from the Governor-General and on advice from Cabinet. This unprecedented move makes it impossible for one Cabinet Minister to issue any longline permit on his own.

With the personal assurance of the Prime Minister that no permits would be issued The Trust accepted Parliament's decision but vowed to remain vigilant.

The Bahamas National Trust is committed to ensuring that longline fishing never occurs in Bahamian waters. The decision of Parliament is seen as the end of a single chapter only. It is the hope of The National Trust that one day longline gear will be listed as prohibited apparatus and completely outlawed in The Bahamas. Until that day - and even after - The Trust urges all of its members and the general public to remain vigilant as well.

The campaign to stop longlining was very expensive. Any contributions towards defraying the costs of this undertaking would be gratefully accepted.

Anyone with information on longline fishing still occurring in Bahamian waters is urged to contact the Department of Fisheries (393-1777) or the BNT (393-1317).

(IUCN/continued from page 1)

able natural resources, conserving species and ecosystems, development of a Biodiversity strategy for IUCN, environmental care for communities, Public participation in national policy making and the drafting of an International Covenant on Environment and Development, to be proposed by IUCN.

The 19th General Assembly was formally opened by the Argentine President, Dr. Carlos Saul Menem. In his address Dr. Menem highlighted the necessity to analyze the road which has been travelled from the Earth Summit

in Rio to date.

"The world has already started to consider sustainable development, led more by the need of surviving than by any elaborate theory or any concrete action," said Dr. Menem. "Ecological sustainability, social sustainability, economic sustainability, political sustainability and cultural sustainability. In summary, (we must find) a new way for man to live with nature; a new way for man to live with other men."

Dr. Menem concluded by saying that little by little, the time for war has been left behind. Now we need to be able to leave behind

the war against nature, since this is a way really of waging a war against ourselves.

The General Assembly concluded its triennial meetings with the passage of more than 150 special resolutions addressing environmental concerns worldwide.

Food for Thought

The time it took for the earth's human population to grow to its first billion... 2,000,000 years.

Time it will take to grow to the next billion, from now... 11 years.

(WorldWatch-Jan/Feb. 1994)

(35th Ann. cont. from page 1)

Many great events and activities are planned. With the involvement of our many members the celebrations will be all the more special!

Want to Give the BNT a Anniversary Present?

Members can give The Trust a present by doing one (or more) of the simple things listed below:

Upgrade your membership.

Participate in the "Strength In Numbers" Campaign by getting a friend to join The Trust.

Join a committee and really get involved!

Attend a BNT Public Meeting.

Volunteer to help at a Trust event.

"Strength In Numbers"

One of the most important events of the year is the "Strength In Numbers" Campaign. This 35th Anniversary membership drive is aimed at doubling The Trust's membership with the help of our existing members...YOU!

Membership is the lifeblood of The Bahamas National Trust. Not only does it provide The Trust with a critical source of income, it adds to The Trust's effectiveness in the following ways:

- Strengthens BNT's advisory role with the government.**
- Strengthens BNT's management capabilities in our national parks.**
- Strengthens BNT's historic preservation and restoration initiatives.**
- Strengthens BNT's educational efforts to promote sustainable development and ecotourism by bringing greater environmental awareness to all Bahamians.**

The Trust is asking each member to recruit a new member and great things are in store for you if you do. Every time you recruit a new member your name will be entered in a drawing. The member who recruits the most new members will automatically win a grand prize. A random drawing will also be held and three additional prizes awarded. You can win a weekend for two at Club Med/San Salvador or a weekend for two at the Bimini Big Game Fishing Club, both with airfare included, or a 35 mm camera.

Please help The Trust double its membership this year. It's so easy to participate, it doesn't cost you any money, and the prizes are great!

BAHAMAS NATIONAL TRUST
P.O. Box N 4105
NASSAU, BAHAMAS

