



CURRENTS

The Newsletter of The Bahamas National Trust

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March 1995

The First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the U. N. Convention on Biological Diversity convened in Nassau on 28 November 1994. Organized by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Meeting was attended by over 700 delegates from 133 states and some 500 representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGO's) from

Bahamas Hosts Historic Biodiversity Conference

around the world. The Convention on Biological Diversity is the first instrument of its kind, and is the culmination of two decades of arduous international efforts and negotiations. For the first time the conservation of biological diversity is recognized by the UN community as a common concern of humankind and considered an integral part of the development process.

Talks centered on how best to implement provisions on the conservation of biological diversity, its sustainable use and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources. Early on the agenda was the issue of the financial mechanisms to assist developing countries with the implementation of the Convention. The Global Environmental Facility (GEF) had been serving as the interim mechanism since the Earth Summit, and it was decided after lengthy discussion that a restructured GEF would continue in that role on a further interim basis.

From the beginning of the Meeting the BNT was recognized as a major force in environmental conservation in the Bahamas. In her opening statement to the Conference of the

Parties (COP), Mrs. Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Executive Director of UNEP commented, "Our gathering at this venue today also allows us to recognize and appreciate the exemplary efforts of the people and authorities of the Bahamas to protect their environment and to conserve their unique biological heritage. The pioneering work carried out by NGO's in the environmental field, and in particular by the Bahamas National Trust since the 1950's, is a testimony of the recognition of this natural wealth and beauty which many thousands of visitors come to admire and enjoy."

(continued on page 5)

Mark Your Calendars



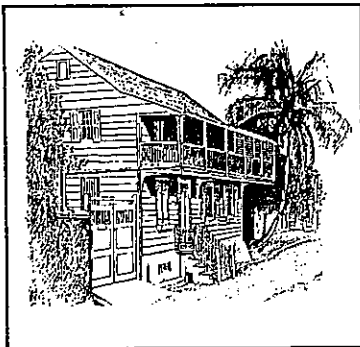
- April 22: BNT Members Workday at RM Bailey Park
- May 14: Steel Band Concert Cecil Dorsett, Nassau Music Society
- May 19-20: Watercolor Art Show by David Jones
- May 22: Public Education Meeting on the Mangrove Ecosystem
- October 28: Annual Art and Wine Festival
- October 28-November 2: World Congress on Adventure Travel & Ecotourism

BNT BEAT

This section is included to give our members and readers a sampling of the scope of issues and activities in which The Trust is involved. Members wanting more information on any topic are welcome to contact BNT headquarters.

MRS LYNN P. HOLOWESKO is the Bahamas Ambassador Designate for the Environment. Under her new portfolio, she will head up The Bahamas Environment Science and Technology Commission (BEST). The formation of BEST is a significant accomplishment for proponents of sustainable development in The Bahamas.

A nine member delegation represented The Bahamas at the **FOURTH ANNUAL ADVENTURE TRAVEL AND ECOTOURISM CONGRESS** in Tasmania, Australia in November of 1994. The major objective in attending the Congress was to promote The Bahamas as the host for the Ecotourism 1995 Congress. Mr. Pericles Maillis presented an impressive slide presentation highlighting the rich natural resources of The Bahamas on the last day of the Congress. The audience was particularly impressed to learn that the Bahamas has the world's first land and sea park (Exuma), the third largest barrier reef, approximately 5% of the world's coral and such a wide variety of marine and terrestrial treasures. They were also impressed to learn of the Bahamas' strong commitment to environmental protection, as evidenced by ratifi-



cation, participation and hosting of world environmental conferences and progressive legislation. Comments about the increased fine (to \$1million) for dumping in Bahamian waters and the banning of long line fishing, drew loud applause. The 1995 Adventure Travel and Ecotourism Congress is scheduled to take place at Sun International's Atlantis Resort from October 28 - November 2, 1995. The Bahamas National Trust is a part of the host planning committee and is working with the Ministry of Tourism to ensure that The Bahamas ecotourism product meets expectations and that maximum benefits from the 1995 Congress are realised.

BNT'S MUSIC VIDEO, "QUINCY RAP" received special recognition at the 1994 North American Association for Environmental Education Film and Video Festival. Cancun was the site of this event held in September of last year. "Quincy Rap" was one of six chosen from a field of 140 videos and films from all over the world. The song was written by Trust Education Officers Lynn Gape and Monique Clarke and recorded locally by Tony McKay. It was produced by The Bahamas National Trust and The National Audubon Society. "Quincy Rap" was a part of the effort to rally support for the creation of the Abaco National Park.

BNT members stepped back through time and entered a by gone era on 10 November, 1994 when they were hosted to a **SPECIAL EVENING AT BALCONY HOUSE**. This event was a joint presentation of The Central Bank of the Bahamas, The Department of Archives and The National Trust. Balcony House, as the name suggests is dis-

tinguished by the balcony overhanging the street below. Typical of architecture found in the southeastern United States, Balcony House was constructed using soft American Cedar and shiplap Abaco pine which has remained remarkably well preserved over the years. The structural restoration was carried out in cooperation with the Ministry of Works and Local Government under the supervision of project architect Alicia Oxley. The house was acquired in 1985 by the Central Bank of the Bahamas. It is presently managed by the Department of Archives and is open to the public for guided tours.

Wholesale Wines and Spirits and Butler and Sands joined forces last year to host the **FOURTH ANNUAL WINE AND ART FESTIVAL** at the Retreat on Village Road. Over 15 talented artists displayed their work while visitors sampled sixty-eight wines from around the world. The Wine and Art festival is the most successful fund raiser during the year for the Trust and we are extremely grateful to the organizers Mr. George Kelly of Wholesale Wines and Spirits, Mr. Tim Clark, Wine Director, Wholesale Wines and Spirits and Miss Diane Holowesko. Diane puts a great deal of time in contacting and coordinating the artists. Her efforts produce continually successful and popular exhibits of new and established talent. The 1995 Wine and Art is scheduled for Saturday, October 28. Mark your calendars now for this enjoyable BNT event.

The Retreat Committee and Longbranch Artists and Artisans Association again joined together to host the **2ND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS JOLLIFICATION**. Thirty artisans participated in the three day event which was attended by over 1,500 people. Visitors were able to purchase beautiful Christmas wreaths, hand-made puppets and dolls, stained glass or-

naments, home-made teas and soaps, holiday plants, and many more beautifully hand-crafted gifts. Children delighted in a ride behind Sara and Saga Boy, the friendly Bahamian donkeys and enjoyed the Bahamian Punch and Judy Show with puppets designed by Simonetta Raymond Barker. This wonderful holiday event will be even bigger and better this year. The Retreat Committee has formed a special Christmas Jollification Committee. Anyone interested in participating or with ideas to help make it a success should contact Mrs. Penny Pyfrom at 324-2211. Jollification proceeds directly benefit The Retreat gardens.

MAKING YOUR GARDEN COME ALIVE! was the most recent Public Education Program. Mr. George Gann of Eco-Horizons (Florida) gave an interesting pro-



gram on using native flora in residential gardens and creating habitat fragments that are important for bird life and other native fauna. Using South Florida as a model, Mr. Gann showed how many Florida residents have transformed their traditional gardens in habitat fragments.

Mark your calendars for Monday, May 22, 1995. Lee Kass, Curator of the Elmira College Herbarium, and Associate Professor of Botany will be giving a presentation on the **MANGROVE ECOSYSTEM**. Professor Kass will be arriving from San Salva-

dor where she has been studying mangroves for the last several years.

The third video in the BNT's series on Historic buildings, **HISTORIC FAMILY ISLANDS: EXUMA, CAT ISLAND AND LONG ISLAND** was recently completed and premiered on March 23. Highlighting the southern Bahamas, the architecture and historic heritage of Exuma, Cat Island and Long Island are showcased in this newest production coordinated by the BNT's Historic Preservation Committee and produced by The Counsellors Ltd. The beautiful churches designed by Father Jerome on Cat Island and Long Island are just a few of the historic structures captured in this video. Commonwealth Bank continues to sponsor this very worthwhile project. Copies of this latest video are available (\$25) at BNT headquarters.

General Manager of Atlantis Submarines, Mr. J.P. Taylor, has announced that his company will join forces with the Rotary Club of South-East Nassau to promote the development and restoration of our Nassau environment. The company will offer one free Atlantis Submarine adventure tour to each Bahamian resident who donates \$100.00 or more to the **R.M.**

BAILEY PARK RESTORATION COMMITTEE. Funds are being solicited for the planting of native trees in the park. Only native trees will be planted as they provide the berries and fruit that sustain the bird and wildlife population of the island. Three BNT Council members are active in the organization of this project, and donations of time and equipment are still needed. Anyone wishing to get involved should contact Robin Symonette.

In October 1994 the BNT and British American Bank sponsored a poster competition under the theme: **"BIODIVERSITY: OUR COUNTRY'S FUTURE."** Over 150 entries were received. Mrs Simonetta Raymond-

Barker, Mrs Lynn Gape and Mr Rolfe Harris served as the judges. Queen's College student Gregory Smith emerged as the overall winner. All winners received certificates and cash prizes. The award presentation was held at the 1994 Wine and Art Festival. On hand to congratulate the young artists was the Honorable Frank Watson, M P and British-American Vice-President of Marketing, Mr. Andrew Gape.

Competition Winners

Division I Grades K-3

Gregory Smith - Queens College
Crystal Fraser - St Andrews
Dael Behagg - St Andrews
Olivia Smith - Queens College

Division II Grades 3-6

Karen Diane Smollet - St Andrews
Jared Sands - St Andrews
Tessa Whitehead - St Andrews
Trevor Culmer - Thelma Gibson
Jamey Darling - St Andrews

Division III Grades 7-9

Stephanie Smollet - St Andrews
Nicholia Lynes - C.I. Gibson
Enderlyn Rolle - C.I. Gibson
Rick Sweeting - Hope Town Abaco

Division IV Grades 10-12

Allan P. Wallace - C. C. Sweeting
Simone Kemp - R. M. Bailey
Mason Brave - C. C. Sweeting

Best in Competition

Gregory Smith - Queens College

Member of

IUCN

The World Conservation Union

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

BNT Hosts Global Biodiversity Forum

The second Global Biodiversity Forum (GBF) was hosted and organised by the National Trust on 26-27 November, 1994 at the Nassau Beach Hotel. More than 200 delegates from over 40 of the world's small island developing states gathered here.

The GBF provides a continuing mechanism by which people working in resource management, research, education, industry, government, non-government organizations ((NGO's) and community members resident near or within biotically important areas, could contribute to the fullest possible understanding of the many values and uses of the Earth's wide variety of life. The Forum, provides an informal setting to discuss biodiversity as it relates to smaller countries.

Two important areas of concern relative to the UN Biodiversity Convention were addressed at the Forum: determining priorities for action, and elevating the importance of coastal and marine biodiversity. On the first day "country experience on setting priorities" was the focus of

discussions. Mr. Gary Larson, and delegates from Canada, Brazil and Bulgaria presented papers. Mr. Larson outlined the BNT's "Strategy for Environment and Development for The Bahamas."

The second day was dedicated to coastal and marine matters. Sunday's discussions were of special interest



to The Bahamas since this country is estimated to have approximately three to five percent of the world's coral reefs. "Reefs are important to The Bahamas in a number of ways. They are critical habitats for our fisheries, they are valuable to tourism, and they protect our shores from storms," said Mr. Larson.

The GBF was sponsored by the Joint Biodiversity Conservation Strategy Program of IUCN - The World Conservation Union, World Resources Institute and the UN Environment Program. The Conference of the Parties on Biological Diversity was held immediately after the Forum.

The participants were hosted to a reception at The Retreat on Sunday, 27 November, 1994.

BNT Extends Its Thanks to the following Supporters and Sponsors of the Global Biodiversity Forum and Biodiversity Conference

Barclays Bank PLC

International Development Research Center • Nassau Beach Hotel
Mr. Leonard Hutchinson • Bahamas Copier • Quen Com • Majestic
Tours Limited • Asa H. Pritchard Limited • Joshua Sears • Atlantic
Satellite • Lynn Holowesko • Pericles Maillis • John Bethell • Gary
Larson • Susan Larson • Lynn Cape • Monique Clarke • Kadie Mills
Kim Rapisarda • Sharon Hall • Blanche Morley • Andrew Hall
Billy Holowesko • Robert Moher • Keva Hanna-Lawrence

Farewell to Dawn Hutton

Dawn Hutton, Administrator of the Rand Nature Center (RNC) left the Trust in January of this year. Before moving to Freeport, Dawn served as the Accounts and Membership Secretary in Nassau. When the BNT acquired the Nature Center, Dawn offered her services to the BNT and has served as the RNC Administrator since 1992. The BNT is sorry to lose Dawn as an employee, but she plans to remain active on the Grand Bahama Regional Committee and will continue to help the Trust as a volunteer.

Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park

1994 was an eventful and exciting year for the ECLSP. The addition of M.S. Caroline a 24 ft. Carolina Skiff with an 85 H.P. Yamaha donated by the Carolina Skiff Co. to our Park fleet has been a great help. The new vessel has proved invaluable for hauling heavy loads and even in pursuing poachers over very shallow water.

The park has had many visitors this year including representatives from the Physical Planning Dept. in Nassau. Mr. Major, Mr. Hanna, Mr. Watkins and Mr. Higgins were responsive to the needs and goals of the Park regarding development of islands lying within Park boundaries.

Thanks to help from volunteers the fuel pad has been finished and the fuel storage tank is now in place. This will mean a great saving in gas as our warden will no longer have to travel to Sampson Cay for fuel.

(Biodiversity - continued from page 1)

The Conference was officially opened by Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham who made special mention of the Trust and its work, especially the management of the 321,000 acre National Park system. Special mention was made of the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park - the first such park of its kind to be established in the world - and its importance to science and fisheries as a marine nursery and reseeded area.

The Prime Minister announced the formation of The Bahamas Environment, Science and Technology Commission which is to be headed by Mrs. Lynn Holowesko, Bahamas Ambassador (designate) for the Environment. (The Bahamas becomes the 6th country in the world to create this post). Mrs. Holowesko served as President of the BNT for over 15 years and is still an active member of Council. The Prime Minister indicated the Commission's principle task will be the coordination of the National Conservation and Sustainable Development Strategy. The strategy was proposed to government by the BNT early in November 1994 and has been a long time recommendation of the Trust for many years.

Throughout the two week conference the Trust maintained a high profile. Three members of the national delegation had ties to the BNT: Mrs. Lynn Holowesko, Council Member, Mr. Gary Larson, Executive Director and Mr. Pericles Maillis, Deputy-President. A special BNT exhibit entitled "Biodiversity, Our Commonwealth, Our Country's Future" was viewed by Conference attendees. The exhibit was sponsored by Barclay's Bank, PLC, International Development Research Center (IDRC) and the Agenda 21 Unit of IDRC. Delegates were invited to



view a 10 minute video "Islands of Biodiversity" and given an opportunity to review the BNT's Strategy for Environment and Development and The Report and Recommendations to the Ministry of Tourism on the Development of Sustainable Tourism and Ecotourism in the Bahamas. A one-day excursion to the Exuma Park was hosted by the BNT on Saturday December 3, 1994 giving representatives from the World Bank, U.N. Development Program, the World Conservation Monitoring Centre and other global environ-

ment and development organizations a first hand look at conservation efforts in the Bahamas. The Trust is grateful to BNT member, Mr. Peter Andrews, for providing transportation to and from the Park aboard his boat. Deputy President Pericles Maillis, with the help of the RBDF Bus, organized morning bird walks and visits to the Adelaide Creek Wetland Restoration for interested delegates throughout the period of the conference.

Both Mrs. Holowesko and Mr. Larson felt that one of the most important issues for the Bahamas was the emergence of the marine environment as a more important component of the biodiversity convention. As a result it has been recommended that the Bahamas become a partner in the International Coral Reef Initiative. Trust representatives also felt that the effort needed to make the conference a success strengthened the bond between NGO's and the government. "There has been a real partnership as far as that is concerned. The Trust is pleased and grateful for the opportunity to have been brought into the process as we were in Barbados (for the Small Island Developing States Conference)" said Mrs. Holowesko.

Bahama Parrot Census

The Bahamas National Trust and the Department of Agriculture visited Abaco in January to conduct a census of the Parrot population there. John Bethell, President; Pericles Maillis, Deputy President; and Carolyn Wardle, Chairman of the Trust's Ornithology Group; Dr Maurice Isaacs and Eric Carey from the Department of Agriculture; Dr. Noel Snyder, Patricia Wainwright, and volunteers from the local community counted the parrots under the direction of Dr. Rosemarie Gnam, an American scientist who has studied these birds for over ten years.

Local participation was encouraged. Before the census began a Town Meeting was held in Marsh Harbour to explain the procedure of the census and give initial instruction to participants. Close to 75 people attended the meeting and local support for the census was unprecedented. Students from Forest Heights Academy, Hope Town All Age School and Man O'War Cay School participated due in part to the generosity of Friends of the Environment. The BNT headquarters in Nassau provided the census team with a vehicle. Special thanks to Gurth V. Russell of Marsh Harbour Exporters and Importers for the loan of his Commercial Ford Van, to Abaco Wholesale for donating supplies for the field expedition, to Stephen and Anita Knowles for providing accommodations for some of the volunteers, and especially Michael and Nancy Albury for their help in organising and conducting the census.

The survey was conducted in the new Abaco National Park, between Crossing Rocks and Hole in the Wall. Preliminary results put estimates at a defined maximum of 1200 birds, about the same number of Bahama parrots that were

(continued on page 8)

Open House '95

The Trust held its annual Open House on Saturday 28 January, 1995 at its Headquarters, The Retreat. This year special exhibits were organized in the Godfrey Higgs Pavilion showcasing the work of the BNT. "Biodiversity, Our Country's Future", a special exhibit created for the Biodiversity Conference and "What's Killing Our Palm trees?", a new exhibit on Lethal Yellowing in palms were of special interest to our visitors. Standing Committees were available to talk about their projects, and visitors had the opportunity to test their knowledge of Bahamian birds and native trees with quizzes organized by the Wildlife Committee.

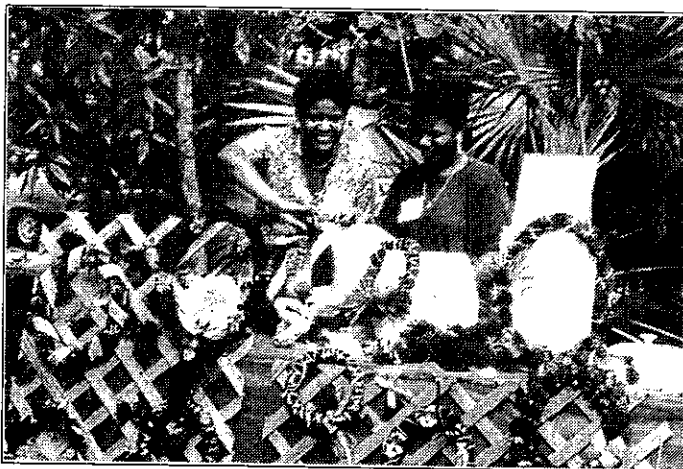


First and foremost a family day, the Open House continues to offer a variety of activities for young and old alike. Dinosaurs roared on the Poinciana Lawn as the ever popular Michael Weilbacher performed the "Rollickin Dinosaur Review." Special thanks to the Rotary Club of East Nassau and Majestic Tours for sponsoring this special event. Our Children's Crafts area seems to get better every year thanks to the hard work of volunteer Aven Roberts and her helpers. A big thank you to Aquapure, City Markets, Home Fabrics and John S. George for their generous donations to this fun activity. Donkey Rides, Pony Rides, Environmental Storytelling, a visit with Benjamin the Boa from Ardastra Gardens & Zoo, and a fantastic Plant Sale, featuring Lethal Yellowing resistant palms rounded out the day. After all that activity, many a tired member relaxed with a Hamburger from the East Nassau Rotary Hamburger Van or a cool TCBY Yogurt.

The organization for this annual BNT event falls on the staff of the Trust. Suggestions and ideas for next year are welcome, please call the office (393-1317) if you want to become involved.

Freeport Open House Arts and Crafts Festival

The BNT Rand Nature Centre held its first Open House Arts and Crafts Festival on Saturday, December 3, 1994. The event, which was attended by over 500 people, served as a wonderful opportunity to build community awareness of the Trust in Grand Bahama. The event also provided a community gathering place for 26 local artisans to display and sell their holiday crafts. Activities for the day included guided nature walks, animal demonstrations, video presentations, and a plant sale. "Quincy" our endangered Bahama Parrot, "Mother Goose" from the Let's Read Bahamas Program, and Miss Grand Bahama in flamingo costume made an appearance and environmental storytelling rounded out the day.



Event Chairman, Mrs. Dawn Hutton was very pleased with the interest and support shown by the community for the event and by the high standard of art and crafts produced by the artisans.

Special thanks are extended to the following businesses and individuals for their invaluable assistance: Rotary Club of Freeport, Rotary Club of Nassau, Freeport Rugby Club, Solomon's Wholesale, Bahamian Delights/Norma Larson, Kelly's Freeport, M&M Water, Paula Boyd, Lynn Gape, Carolyn Milligan, Alice and Dennis Knowles, Katy Taylor, Monica and Richard Bates, Geoff Hurst, James Roberts and all of the Grand Bahama "Helping Hands" volunteers!

Ornithology Group has Impressive Year

Participants included Liz Roberts, Tony Hepburn, Terry Capell, Aileen Bainton, Chris Gordon, Merle Mills, John and Beth Bethell, Vernal Smith, Ann Wyatt Smith, Lynn Gape and Carolyn Wardle. Many thanks to the Gapes and Wyatt-Smiths for accommodations.

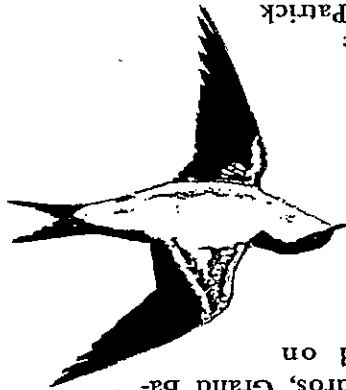
BAHAMA SWALLOW RESEARCH

Paul Allen from Cornell University is conducting research on the Bahama Swallow *Callipepla cyanocervix*. His research involves re-evaluating the conservation status of the species by estimating the total population size.

Since the species may be limited by lack of nesting sites, the Ornithology Group has started a nest box programme in the hope of encouraging the birds to increase their nesting efforts. Boxes have already been placed on New Providence, Andros, Grand Bahama and on

Ship Channel Cay Exumas.

The Ornithology Group enlisted the help of Dr. Patrick Balfe who has made over 20 nest boxes. Committee members are placing them in suitable habitats and monitoring their use. Nest boxes may be sponsored by BNT members for \$10 a box. If a member's box attracts a pair for nesting the member will be notified. BNT members can also help by looking for swallows particularly in the coming months as they return to the Bahamas and begin to nest. Please report sightings to the Ornithology group at the BNT.



Dennis and Lynn Burnette, Jean McCoy, Nina Dameron and Emily Tyler. Also visiting were Rick Oliver from the Rand Nature Center, Freepor and Clarence Abadie from the Rehab station at Autee, Andros. The Committee is grateful to Tony White, Lionel Levine, Marion Madrill and Carolyn Wardle for providing accommodations and to the Mallis family for Thanksgiving dinner. Special thanks to the staff of the Water and Sewerage Dept, Pumping Station Prospect Ridge for guiding the group through their property and providing refreshments, Bahamas Youth Camp and Paradise Island Golf Course for allowing visitation to their properties. Anyone wishing details of the visit can contact Mrs. Carolyn Wardle, Committee coordinator at 362-1574.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

On Thursday, December 29, the Ornithology group organized the first Christmas Bird Count on New Providence. Wayne Hoffman and Alexander (Sandy) Sprunt traveled from Florida to join the group and help with the organizational details. Wayne and Sandy, together with Paul Dean and Tony White led four separate groups in surveying New Providence's Bird Life. Beginning at 5:45 a.m. each group canvassed an assigned area recording birds sighted. The combined result was a total of 96 species identified. An exciting result of the count was the sighting of the Lesser Black-Backed Gull - a new species to our island not previously recorded.

Sandy Sprunt expressed great satisfaction with this first attempt and as a result of this experience and with more participation next year he is The Bahamas Count can top 100 species.

The BNT Ornithology Group, a Sub-Committee of the Wildlife Committee, has emerged as one of the most active BNT groups. The Committee continues to show a high regard and concern for Bahamian bird life as evidenced by the many activities they have organized and are involved in.

WORLD BIRDWATCH 94

Last October The Trust participated in Birdlife International's World Birdwatch for the second year. BNT members were again asked to record birds sighted in their gardens. The 1994 theme *Flight, Color and Song* highlighted the importance of birds in our lives. People around the world were asked to pay particular attention to birdlife around their homes and workplaces. The Committee hosted a Saturday morning birdwalk at the home of Mr. Anders Wiberg.

PARTNERS IN FLIGHT

As part of the Partners in Flight Program between the BNT, Ministry of Agriculture, College of the Bahamas and the North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences six members of the Piedmont Bird Club of Greensboro, North Carolina visited the Bahamas from November 23rd to the 28th. During the four day visit a total of 89 species at 22 different locations were identified. Over 30 people from the Ornithology group and another 30 students from COB participated. Visiting from North Carolina were Dr. Herb Hendrickson,



counted in 1989. Although the figures might hint at stability, the true state of the population is not totally determined by figures. Seeing that parrots live for more than thirty years, the birds counted in 1995 could very well be the same parrots counted six years ago. Also, predation by feral cats may have wiped out most of the young over the years, which possibly would account for no significant change in the population size.

"The purpose of the census was to establish base line data for further work," said Dr Isaacs. Additional counts will probably be done during the nesting season to get some idea of the ratio of male to female parrots and how many nests produce young. All information will be used in developing management plans for the parrots. Hopefully, with all the conservation mechanisms in place, the Trust will soon be able to announce a viable and stable Bahama parrot population in Abaco.

Bahamas National Trust
P.O. Box N 4105
Nassau, Bahamas

Strength in Numbers!

The "Strength in Numbers" Campaign brought in 164 new members thanks to the many participants who asked friends and family to join the BNT. Membership is the lifeblood of the National Trust. Many more voices are needed to promote the Trust's aims and objectives and advocate conservation and sustainable development in The Bahamas. Sincere appreciation and a big thank you to the campaign sponsors: Club Med, Premier Travel, Bimini Big Game Fishing Club, Chalk's Airlines, and John Bull.

RECRUITING THE MOST MEMBERS: the winners of a weekend for two at Club Med on Historic San Salvador (air fare included) were Mr. and Mrs. Basil Minns who brought in 14 new members.

RANDOM DRAW 1: the winner of a weekend for two at the Bimini Big Game Fishing Club transportation provided by Chalk's Airlines was Mrs. Penny Pytrom.

RANDOM DRAW 2: the winner of a pair of binoculars donated by John Bull Ltd. was Mr. Douglas Duncombe.

RANDOM DRAW 3: the winner of a Spencer Hodge Limited Edition Print was Ms. Anna Colebrooke.

RANDOM DRAW 4: the winner of a 35mm camera, also donated by John Bull Ltd. was Mrs. Rionda Godel (who also brought in 12 new members!).

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU!