

BNT *Currents*

Strategic Plan Will Shape BNT Future

The Trust's governing council has defined our future directions by creating a strategic plan to take us into the 21st century. Presented in draft form earlier this year, the plan has been edited and revised by the executive committee and is now ready for final approval by council.

Covering the years 1997 to 2002 the plan defines the Trust's priorities in seven broad areas: institutional strengthening; financial development; national parks and protected areas; education/communication and marketing; membership development; policy and advocacy; and research and monitoring.

The document emerged from a growing need that many conservation organisations have recently been faced with globally—how to achieve the greatest possible level of resource protection, within the organisation's mandate, without over-extending the organisation.

The strategic plan is divided into three sections: the Mission; the Goal, and the Strategic Objectives.

The Mission "is a link to the past and a promise for the future, a statement of the Trust's intentions and integrity."

The Goal provides a five-year focus.

The Strategic Objectives, driven by the mission, define how the goal will be achieved.

The Trust employs 20 people nationwide and has hundreds of volunteers involved in its work.

The strategic plan will be the guiding document for staff and volunteers over the next five years. In 1999 the Trust will celebrate its 40th anniversary, making it the oldest organisation of its kind in the wider Caribbean.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sept 20: International Coastal Cleanup: New Providence, Grand Bahama, Inagua
Sept 23: Coral reef slide presentation by world-renowned underwater photographer David Doubilet, sponsored by Sun International
Oct 4-5: World Birdwatch Bird Walks; Saturday 7:30am, Paradise Island Golf Course and 9:30am, the Retreat, Village Road. Sunday, 8am, Botanical Gardens
Oct 14-17: Ministry of Tourism/Bahamas National Trust Bird Watching Course
Oct 25: Annual Wine and Art Festival
Nov 21-23: Annual Christmas Jollification

Tremendous Lucayan Archaeological Site Found on Grand Bahama

THE BAHAMAS NATIONAL TRUST and the Department of Archives have teamed up to coordinate the excavation of a Lucayan site at Deadman's Reef on Grand Bahama. Landowners Heinz and Kitty Fishbacher contacted the Trust's Grand Bahama Branch in 1996 after discovering artifacts along their eroding beach front.

With the assistance of consultant archaeologist Dr Julian Granberry and Grace Turner from the Department of Archives, and through funding provided in part by Bristol Cellars, the excavation began this

New National Parks Poster

Thanks to a generous grant from the Rotary Club of East Nassau the BNT has produced a beautiful full-colour poster titled "National Parks—National Treasures". The two-sided landscape 23 x 35" poster depicts the diversity of flora and fauna in our parks on one side, and a map of the Bahamas showing the location of the parks with descriptive information on the other side. The eye-catching design was created by Media Enterprises Limited. The poster will become an integral part of the Trust's educational programmes and will be ready for national distribution in the fall.

BNT President Sandra Buckner

attended the 77th annual meeting of American Ichthyologists and Herpetologists in June of this year at the University of Washington in Seattle. Mrs Buckner presented a paper which reviewed research and conservation issues relating to the *Cyclura* species of rock iguana in the Bahamas. She also attended the World Herpetology Congress in Prague, the Czech Republic, during August. She continues to represent herpetology concerns in the Bahamas at international fora network with a wide array of international scientists, and build an information data base on Bahamian herpetology.

Mother/Daughter Fashion & Cultural Celebration fundraising event in Grand Bahama earlier this year was attended by over 600 people. Coordinated by the Special Event Fundraising Committee of the Grand Bahama



Branch, the celebration was a big success, attracting a whole new segment of the Bahamian public to a BNT function. Ten mother/daughter teams, representing various Bahamian islands, competed with hand-made costumes, stories of the islands and much more.

Dr. David Campbell, a former executive director of the BNT and author of the *Ephemeral Islands*, returned to Nassau after more than two decades and gave a public presentation on "What Columbus Saw: The Controversial First Natural History of the Bahamas."



The 1492 diario or log of Columbus's first voyage is considered the first natural history of the Bahamas. Unfortunately this original journal was lost and today historians can only guess as to its precise contents. Only a handwritten transcription survived: Bartolome de la Casas's (circa 1590) ab-

stract of the the *Diario of Christopher Columbus' First Voyage to America, 1492-1493*. In 1989 a typeset transaction of the diario was published by Dunn & Kelly, making the primary material available to scholars. Dr Campbell interpreted the descriptions of plants and animals in Columbus's journal as per the transcription of la Casas. References to Shearwaters, sea grasses, woody plants, fragrant flowers, forests, parrots, white-crowned pigeons, epiphytes, lizards, crocodiles, snakes and dogs, as well as Lucayan sources for dugout canoes, fibre, pigments, flour, water vessels, balms and aromatic leaves are found throughout. Dr Campbell also speculated as to why certain quintessential Bahamian species, such as hutias and monk seals, were not mentioned in the diario.

International Marine Debris Cleanup

The Bahamas National Trust will again participate in the Center for Marine Conservation's International Coastal Cleanup on Saturday, September 20. Participation is the key to this event which seeks to not only remove marine debris from our shorelines, but also to collect valuable in-

formation about the amount and types of debris found and use the information to effect positive change and educate people on the issue of marine debris and its impact on the environment.

School, churches, civic groups and interested citizens on New Providence or the Family Islands are encouraged to participate and should contact Lynn Gape at the BNT office Nassau, 393-1317 for more information. Residents of Grand Bahama should contact Edward Robinson at the BNT Rand Nature Center 352-5438.

Jollification Plans Underway

Under the direction of chairman Sandy Walker, the BNT Christmas Jollification Committee is busily preparing for this popular annual holiday event. All arts and crafts exhibitor space has been sold and organisers predict an outstanding show. Anyone wishing to donate to the White Elephant Booth or the Book Stall can call the Trust for more information. Volunteers are also needed for the three-day event to work in the shop, help at the gate and assist with the raffle. Please call Lynn Gape at 393-1317 if you want to help. Remember to mark your calendars for November 21-23 and plan to be at the BNT.

Bird-watching, Anyone?

In conjunction with the Trust, the Ministry of Tourism will offer its second bird-watching course October 14-17 at the Bahamas Tourism Training Centre in New Providence. The week-long course includes classroom lectures and field trips and follows the highly successful course offered a

year ago. Open to any interested person the registration fee is \$50. Please call Andrea Coakley at 302-2074 for more information.



Historic T-Shirts

The BNT Historic Preservation Committee recently produced a new t-shirt highlighting some of the beautiful historic detail found in the wrought-iron fence of St Andrew's Kirk. Original pen and ink drawings by Robert Douglas were used for the artwork. The smart black and white shirts are a must for all who support historic preservation efforts! The shirts are available at the Retreat on Village Road and at the BNT Rand Nature Centre in Freeport.

IN MEMORIAM

JOHN JACK E. PATTERSON, author of "Native Trees of the Bahamas" and long-time friend of the Trust.

ROBERT PALMER, founder of the Blue Holes Foundation, author of "Deep into Blue Holes" and a friend of the Trust having helped in the establishment of the Lucayan National Park on Grand Bahama.

Manatee Sightings

Two recorded sightings of manatees have occurred in the Bahamas over the last three months, one at Abaco during June and the other at Hatchet Bay, Eleuthera in early August.

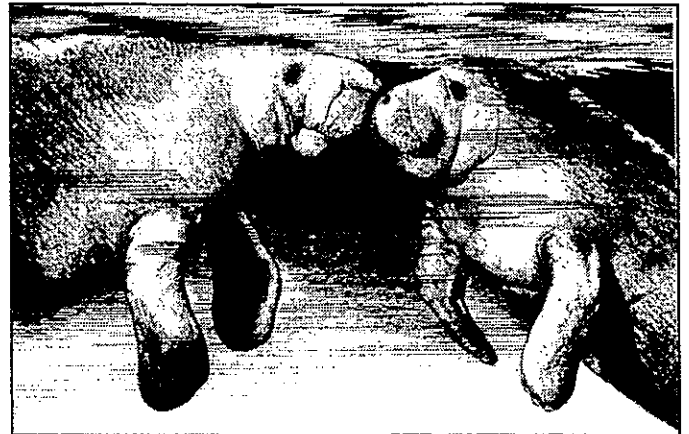
The West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*) is a large plant-eating aquatic mammal and is considered endangered throughout its range. A relative of the Pacific dugong, manatees belong to the order Sirenia and evolved from four-footed land mammals over 60 million years ago. Manatees are found along the tropical coasts of both the eastern and western Atlantic. The West Indian manatee is found from the southern United States through the Caribbean and south to the northwest coast of Brazil. So although sightings in the Bahamas are rare, the Islands are a part of the manatees' range.

The Trust reminds its members that the manatee is an endangered species completely pro-

TECTED by national and international law. Because manatees can grow up to 10 feet long, they have an imposing presence in the water. They are shy, however, and harmless to people. Manatees are large and gray, looking a lot like a seal except their tails are broad and flat like a spatula and their upper lip covered with thick

wrinkled skin and stiff whiskers.

Manatees are included in the Trust's Marine Mammal Survey. Please report all manatee sightings to the Bahamas National Trust. The Trust forwards all manatee sightings to the National Biological Survey Sirenia Project in Gainesville, Florida.



"Kissing" may be a form of communication between manatees.

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Tremendous Lucayan Archaeological Site Found on Grand Bahama

summer under the direction of Drs. Perry Gnivecki and Mary Jane Berman. This husband and wife team from the Department of Anthropology, Wake Forest University has been conducting field studies at two Lucayan sites in San Salvador for the past 13 years and have extensive knowledge about Lucayan archaeology in the Bahamas.

Working with local volunteers at the site they have made exciting finds, including several hearths and numerous animal bones, pottery pieces and shell beads. Although more definitive information will be available following analysis of the artifacts, the site appears to be a centre of activity dating back to 1200-1300AD. It may be one of the most important archaeological sites yet discovered in the Lucayan archipelago.

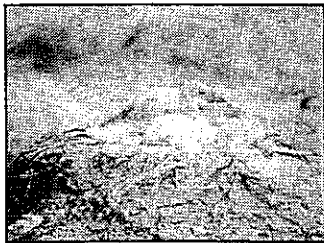


Volunteers work carefully in grids at recently discovered Lucayan site on Grand Bahama.

News from the NATIONAL PARKS and REGIONAL BRANCHES

INAGUA NATIONAL PARK

Wardens Henry Nixon, Casper Burrows and Jimmy Nixon were kept busy this year as film companies from Germany and Japan traveled to Inagua to record the 1997 flamingo nesting on film. The wardens also hosted Trust members Mr and Mrs Peter Andrews and Mr and Mrs David Donald who purchased the "Inagua Safari" donated by the BNT to the Rotary Club of East Nassau's Imagine Auction earlier in the year. Great Inagua headed the list of top attractions and ecological wonders of the Caribbean pub-



lished recently by Travel Weekly, an influential travel trade magazine. Inagua's diverse population of wild birds and animals, and its stark, stunted natural beauty played no small part in this designation. ZNS Radio was taken on a tour of the park and was privileged to see a flock of 200 Whistling ducks along the way. Love 97 Radio visited Inagua and interviewed Henry and Casper on their work and the history of the park. A busy year in the land of "de fillymingos!"

UNION CREEK RESERVE

Research at Union Creek continues as BNT Scientific Advisors Drs Karen Bjorndal and Alan Bolten of the Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research spent two weeks in

July continuing their long-term studies on growth and nutrition in Green turtles. Part of their research includes blood sampling which is used to analyze the genetics of the Union Creek population and to monitor the health of the turtles in the creek.

Initial results of the genetics work indicate that immature green turtles residing in Union Creek come from green turtle rookeries throughout the Greater Caribbean and perhaps from as far away as Brazil or the west coast of Africa.

FIRE MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR NORTHERN PARKS

As a result of a memorandum of understanding between the Trust and the US National Parks Service, a fire management assessment was recently conducted in our three most northern parks. John and Roberta Segar, fire specialists from the USNPS spent a week in Grand Bahama and Abaco meeting with BNT Executive Director Gary Larson and Grand Bahama staff Rob Moher and Kathy Oliver. The team conducted aerial and ground surveys of the three parks and created fire management recommendations for these highly forested areas. We are extremely grateful to Abaco residents Stephen and Anita Knowles, Earl and Kenneth Albury and Gurth Russell for logistical support and assistance on Abaco and the US National Parks Service for its continued generosity towards the Bahamas National Trust.

RAND NATURE CENTRE

The Rand continues to act as

hub for environmental education in the Grand Bahama community. Over 1600 students have visited the centre so far in 1997. Renovations to the main building continue and plans are underway for the construction of a new visitor center/art gallery thanks to a bequest from the late Glory Harris Banks. An "adopt-an-animal" programme was instituted to support the expense of caring for captive and recuperating animals at the centre and the programme is meeting with success. The Rand keeps five full-time staff members, an education specialist on contract and a host of volunteers very busy!

LUCAYAN NATIONAL PARK

Visitation to the Lucayan National Park continues to in-



Grand Bahama Junkanoo Earth Walk: The Classic Dancers lead over 400 Earth Week Walkers. Activities focused on International Year of the Reef.

crease, making it the most heavily visited park in the Bahamas. With the generosity and cooperation of the Ministry of Public Safety and Immigration, a permanent police presence at the park has added immeasurably to the sense of well-being and order. A new ticketing system is being introduced for commercial users and two park reception officers are currently being trained and will be posted in September. Plans are underway to con-

struct a new visitor centre to supply needed infrastructural improvements for visitor enjoyment and safety. Anyone interested in helping with park activities on Grand Bahama should contact BNT Regional Director Rob Moher at the Rand Nature Centre in Freeport (242-352-5438).

EXUMA CAYS LAND AND SEA PARK

Park Warden Ray Darville and his wife Evelyn receive constant support from a wonderful group of volunteers. Improvements to the park office and headquarters have taken place, the power supply has been supplemented by an anonymous donation of new solar panels, and a large generator from Michael Dingman. Power tools and other equipment can now be oper-

ated as needed without worry. New, larger moorings were installed at Warderick Wells earlier this year. Visitors hoping to utilize the moorings should call the park HQ one day in advance. Office hours are 9am to 5pm,

Monday through Saturday and 9am to 1pm on Sunday.

As a marine fisheries reserve the Exuma Park acts as a replenishment area for several important commercial fishery species and is an important living laboratory for scientific research. Recent studies indicate that the park is in fact contributing to the replenishment of marine species, particularly conch and grouper, which is good news indeed!



Lynhurst House, restored in 1996.

Historic Preservation Awards Continue

The Trust's Historic Preservation Committee continues to recognize efforts of private citizens and businesses whose restoration and conversion efforts merit public recognition.

The two most recent recipients were: The Haynes Library in Eleuthera and Lynhurst House, the Law Office of Paul A. Knowles, Elizabeth Avenue, Nassau.

THE HAYNES LIBRARY in Eleuthera was opened in 1897 by Sir William Haynes Smith, the then governor of the Bahamas. He also commissioned Haynes Oval at Fort Charlotte. Over the past 100 years the present building has housed the library, courthouse, doctor's residence and other government offices. In past years the Haynes Library fell into disrepair and concerned residents joined forces to restore the building. One noteworthy feature is the gingerbread crest along the spine of the library's roof, an extremely rare feature of Bahamian architecture. The Friends of the Library was formed in 1994 and has been able, through exemplary community effort, to fund repairs to the badly damaged roof, paint the exterior, fix the storm shutters and interior masonry, build shelves for books, save the gingerbread trim, and strip and refinish the floor. In August 1996, the library re-opened and has become a focal point for the people of central Eleuthera. The Trust's Historic Preservation Committee sees the Haynes Library as an example other Family Island communities can emulate.

THE LAW FIRM OF PAUL A. KNOWLES in Nassau is an excellent example of a company that has renovated the interior of an older building for new uses while preserving the outer facade in its traditional design. Lynhurst House was built in the late 1890's and was the former home of Daisy Brown. The house was purchased by the Oak Club Ltd in 1983 and became the office of Mr Knowles. The building was damaged by fire in 1995, but was beautifully restored and the interior floor-plan of the house remains much the same as it was when a private residence. Lynhurst house is a wonderful example of how historical residential buildings can be successfully adapted for modern use.

Info-Tech Workshop

THE BAHAMAS ENVIRONMENT, Science & Technology Commission (BEST) recently held a multi-sectoral workshop on information technologies at the College of The Bahamas computer laboratory. The workshop was coordinated by Dr Alari Bolten, special advisor to the Trust and a consultant to the commission, and Stephanie Haas of the University of Florida. Participants were introduced to the wide variety of information technologies used in natural resource research, planning and decision making. They were also introduced to the Bahamas Natural Resources Bibliography, a BEST biodiversity data management project funded by the United Nations Environment Programme. Dr Bolten and Ms Haas demonstrated the application of Folio Views software, an authoring tool for the natural resources meta-database, and ProCite Bibliographic Software which is used for accessing the bibliography. Attending the workshop from the Trust were Lynn Gape, a member of the biodiversity data management project team, Susan Larson, Monique Clarke and Sandra Buckner.

Historic Abaco Video Premieres

HISTORIC FAMILY ISLANDS: The Abacos premiered in the ballroom of Government House in June to a capacity audience which included Governor-General Sir Orville Turnquest. The video is the fifth in the Trust's Proud and Singular Heritage Series produced under the auspices of the Historic Preservation Committee.

The video introduces viewers to the interesting history of the Abacos. Loyalists who settled there from 1783 onwards were noted for their shipbuilding and seafaring traditions and they greatly influenced the history and architecture of the islands. The video includes present-day stories and interviews with residents from Elbow Cay, Green Turtle Cay and Man O' War Cay bringing a unique insight to Abaco's colorful past.

Special certificates of appreciation were given to Commonwealth Bank and the Counsellors Ltd at the

conclusion of the premiere. Education and Public Relations Officer Lynn Gape thanked Commonwealth Bank for its support, confidence and commitment to the project over the years. As a result of their sponsorship the Trust has been able to produce a visual record of Bahamian historic buildings, raising public awareness of the need to preserve the historic architecture of the Bahamas; an audio visual programme that makes Bahamian history more relevant; and a permanent film record of historic buildings and sites in the Bahamas. Patricia Ginton-Meicholas was thanked for putting her heart and soul into the writing and direction of the scripts.

A special showing of the video is planned for Abaco in the fall. All five videos in the Heritage Series are available for sale at the Trust's headquarters on Village Road, Nassau and the BNT Rand Nature Centre in Grand Bahama.

Our Fragile Coral Reefs

As part of the Trust's celebration of the International Year of the Coral Reef, the Education Office has produced *Our Fragile Coral Reefs: An Educator's Resource Booklet* and distributed it to schools around the country earlier this month. The booklet provides basic teaching information and a variety of interdisciplinary activities



on the coral reef ecosystem and introduces teachers to the many teaching aides the Trust has available in its reference library.

The booklet contains six fact sheets covering the coral reef ecosystem, the value of reefs to man, threats to reefs, types of

corals and reef fish, and "creature features," as well as arts and crafts activities, geography and reading skills exercises.

Premiering at the Ministry of Education's August Teachers Workshop, the booklet was well received by educators. The Trust extends its appreciation to the Ministry of Education for assisting with the distribution of the packets to public schools. Teachers wishing to have a personal copy may collect one from the BNT Education Office in Nassau while supplies last.

Donation to the Retreat Gardens



The Retreat garden now has a drip irrigation system, installed and donated by Aubrey Kemp of Enviroscap. Pictured from left : Sara Bardelmeier, Philip Bethell, Oris Russell, Linda Thompson, Aubrey Kemp, Glen Franklin, Barbara Pyfrom, John Bethell and Trixie Clarke.



BNT at Environment Youth Forum

BNT Education Officer Monique Clarke was a featured speaker at the Abaco regional Youth Forum on the Environment held in Hope Town, Abaco during May.

Miss Clarke presented the Trust's Green Pledge programme at the forum. Based on the 1992 United Nations' Earth Pledge, this programme outlines 10 simple things every person can do to help the environment and culminates with the taking of "the Green Pledge"—a promise to preserve and protect the environment of the Bahamas. She also distributed posters and educational materials to

each school.

The forum gave students an opportunity to voice their opinions and concern on a number of environmental issues. Problems of litter, vector control, recycling and tree removal were all identified as environmental issues of great concern to Abaco students. Organised by Candace Key, principal of Hope Town School, in response to a challenge issued at the Ministry of Education's Youth Summit on the Environment held in Nassau in 1996, Abaco is the only Family Island to have organised such an event.

White-Crowned Pigeon Education Meetings

As a result of a special meeting to discuss scientific monitoring of the White-Crowned Pigeon, the BNT Gamebird Committee launched a hunter education programme on Family Islands with hunting communities.

The first such meeting took place in Marsh Harbour and was attended by a large group of hunters who gathered to hear Alexander Sprunt's presentation on the breeding biology of

the White-Crowned Pigeon and discuss implementation of hunting licenses and other hunting-related topics.

BNT representatives Pericles Maillis and Lynn Gape, and Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Conservation Officer Eric Carey joined Mr Sprunt for the meeting. Additional meetings are scheduled for September 19 in Georgetown, Exuma and September 20 in Long Island.

New to BNT Video Library

The BNT Library has several new additions to the video library. In recognition of the International Year of the Reef three new videos and a Coral Reef Teachers Guide have been added to the library shelves. The addition of these audio visual resources was made possible by a donation from Lloyd's Bank. Brief descriptions of the new resources follow:

The Amazing Coral Reef

Created especially for elementary-age children, this video provides an introduction to the wonder and importance of the world's coral reefs as well as the environmental threat facing them.

Coral Reefs:

Rainforests of the Sea

Created especially for teenagers, this video provides an excellent look at the science, ecology and importance of coral reefs. Utilizing underwater footage shot on reefs worldwide, the program describes how reefs are formed, where they can be found, their importance to tropical oceans and the human community, and the major natural and human caused threats they face.

Canary of the Ocean

Stretching for miles off the Florida Keys is largest coral reef in the continental

United States, and one of the longest in the world. But America's primary reef is dying and like the proverbial canary in the coal mine, its decline is a warning that something is very wrong in our oceans. This video portrays the stunning beauty of America's fragile undersea kingdom, investigates the serious threats to its health, and profiles some of the concerned people working to preserve it for future generations.

Coral Forest Teacher's Guide

This is the most comprehensive teaching guide available on coral reefs, written with the guidance of scientists, educators, and master classroom teachers. Published in a loose-leaf binder, the guide is interdisciplinary and reproducible, featuring extensive background information on reefs, nearly 40 field-tested classroom activities for all grade levels, a glossary, a list of related organizations and bibliography.

BNT Youth in Action

Discovery Club continues to be an unqualified success. 1996-1997 saw the introduction of the "Guardians", BNT members between the ages of 9 and 11, who joined the young "Explorers" starting their second year. The club's year was packed with activities such as camping skills development, duck banding, nature walks, strange animal races, arts and crafts, and one of the highlights: the "Adventure with the Batmen". Professor John Hall and Dr Phillip Dougherty guided a group of 30 club members, instructors, and parents on a bat field trip. The group explored two caves on New Providence and captured, examined and released a number of bats. The "up close and personal" encounter with these flying mammals was a memorable experience for many members!

The programme concludes each year with a grand camping trip. Thirty excited club members traveled to Abaco in June and spent a fun-filled, long weekend learning about Abaco's environment. Discovery Club is grateful to Libba Massie, Joan Marie Larter, Robin Symonette, Jon Friend, Andrew Rogers and Monique Clarke for acting as chaperones on this trip. A very special thank you to Mr Rogers for his barbecuing skills and outstanding enthusiasm during the weekend!

The club awards ceremony was also held in June when club members were presented with badges they earned during the year. Additionally Kimberlee Russell, Ashli Fox, Kai Chaplin, Jenna

Chaplin and Duncan Cole received perfect attendance certificates, and Jonathon Siddens and Katie Scates, two high school students who assist with Discovery Club, were recognized for their dedication and unselfish contributions. Kai Chaplin received the club's highest award: the Model

Explorer Badge.

The Trust is grateful to the volunteers who helped take Discovery Club to new heights this year. Libba Massie, Wendie Bishop, Linda Brown, Sheila Chaplin, Jon Friend, Joan Marie Larter, Malcolm Nicholson, Judy Reiach, and Robin Symonette.



Discovery Club kids gather with Club leaders after the 1996/97 Awards Ceremony. Badges on sashes indicate programmes successfully completed.

Volunteers Honoured at AGM

Many of the Trust's accomplishments are the result of hard-working volunteers and committees. The Trust was pleased to honour several individuals and one committee at its annual general meeting earlier this year.

Recognized for her exemplary leadership and dedication to Discovery Club was Libba Massie, chairman of the Discovery Club programme since 1995. Mrs Massie brought years of experience in teaching young people and a wonderful enthusiasm for learning and the outdoors to this innovative educational programme.

Carolyn Wardle was recognized for her outstanding efforts as coordinator of the Ornithology Group which organizes monthly bird

walks, produces a monthly newsletter, coordinates the annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count and monitors and catalogues a Bird "Road Kill Programme". Mrs Wardle also acted as the coordinator of the 1996 Annual Meeting of the Society for Caribbean Ornithology.

Recognized for his dedication as chairman of the Grand Bahama Regional Branch was Dennis Knowles. Home to three of our national parks (Lucayan National Park, Peterson Cay National Park, and the BNT

Rand Nature Center), Grand Bahama has been an important island to the Trust for many years. Mr Knowles has put together an excellent and dedicated team of volunteers who work with him in furthering the aims and objectives of the Trust in the Bahamas, especially as they relate to the care of the national parks.

Dr G. Carleton Ray, a BNT founding member and special advisor, has supported the Trust for nearly half a century. Dr Ray led the scientific expedition and authored a large portion of the report which led to the establishment of the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park, the first of its kind in the world. Dr Ray has remained active and committed to the

Trust ever since. He is presently working with the Trust on the Cay Sal proposal and is also part of the BNT team investigating and working with the people of Andros in establishing protected areas. The Trust was pleased and proud to recognize Dr Ray for his unselfish support and friendship.

The outstanding support of the Christmas Jollification Committee for the Retreat garden was also recognized. This volunteer committee organizes one of the Trust's major fund-raising activities. Last year the committee raised over \$25,000 which is used exclusively to support the needs of the garden.



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Conservation and Preservation for a Better Quality of Life!
