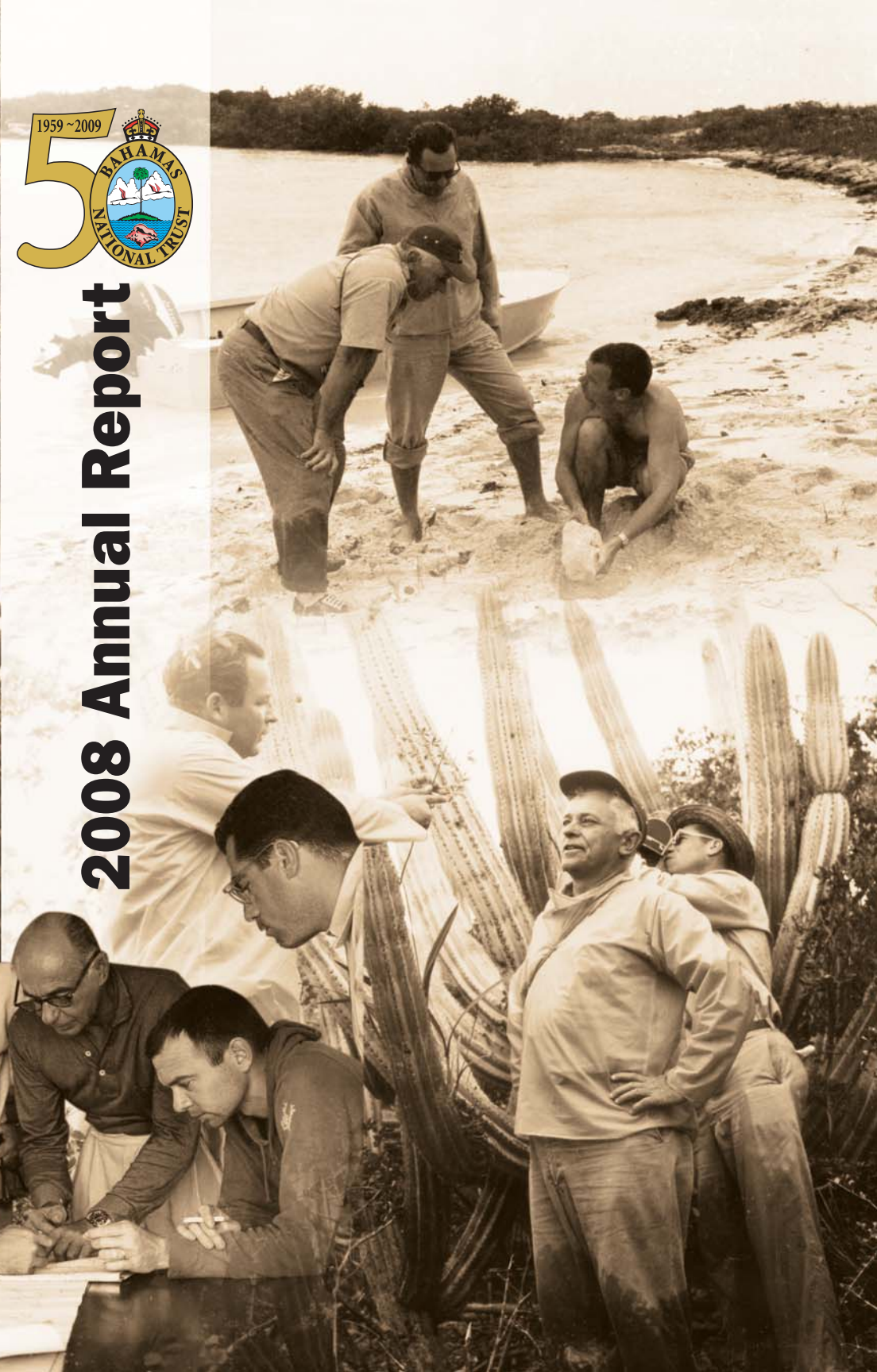




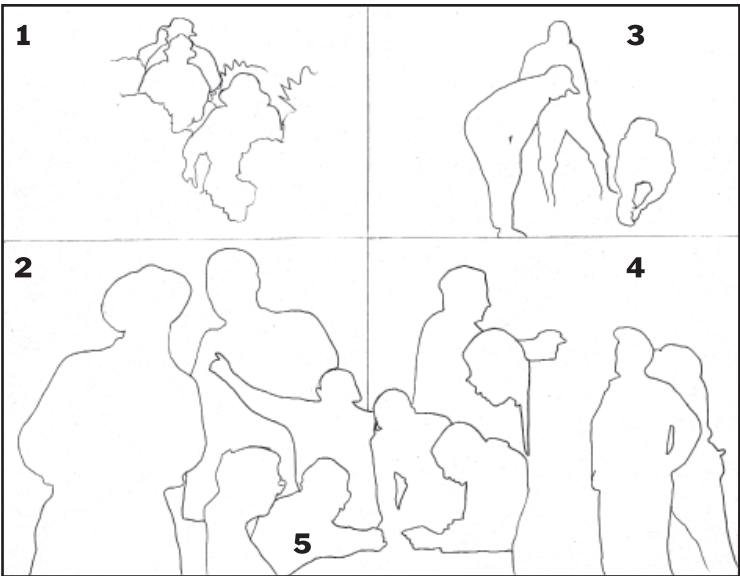
2008 Annual Report



Bahamas National Trust is a non-profit membership organization established by an act of Parliament in 1959. It is charged with:

- Managing the country's 25 national parks covering 700,000 acres of land and sea,
- Providing environmental education services and programmes to Bahamians, and
- Advising government on environmental policy matters.

Your support is vitally important in assisting the Trust to fulfil its mission.



1 Expedition members explore Hawksbill Cay, Exuma. Herbert McKinney in the lead, bushwacking, with Dan Beard following; bringing up the rear, Robert P. Allen of the National Audubon Society.

2 From left - Carleton Ray and Oris Russell examining some of the native flora on Exuma

3 From left -Dan Beard, Oris Russell and Don Squires

4 From left - Oris Russell shows an Exuman orchid to Dan Beard, as Carleton Ray tries to photograph the cactus on which it grows

5 Planning a day on Exuma. Oris Russell (with dark glasses) leads the discussion and with him from left are: John Randall, Dan Beard (standing), Ilia Tolstoy (bending over), Don Squires and Carleton Ray (also standing).

Photos : Russ Kinne

President's Message

I am pleased to report that over the past four years as your president, The Bahamas National Trust has made tremendous strides. We have improved the infrastructure and management of our park system, forged meaningful partnerships, strengthened our leadership, and introduced thousands of visitors and Bahamians to the beauty and diversity of our country, while increasing awareness of the need to protect our precious resources.

Our key objective of developing an integrated national park and protected area system was achieved. I am particularly proud that we were able to improve public access and infrastructure at national parks on New Providence, Andros and Grand Bahama.

Harrold and Wilson Ponds National Park on New Providence has become a world-class outdoor recreation and ecotourism venue for residents and visitors. The two boardwalks and viewing stations built in 2007/8 have facilitated visitor education and appreciation of this significant wetland and birding habitat.

At the Abaco National Park and the Blue Hole National Park in Fresh Creek, Andros (with its new boardwalk and observation deck), wardens were hired for the first time. Park wardens employed by the BNT have increased from five in 2006 to 10 in 2008.

Grand Bahama, home to three national parks, received significant attention in both 2007 and 2008. Working with the BNTs rejuvenated Grand Bahama Committee; the bridge at the Lucayan National Park was rebuilt. The grand opening of this bridge in February, 2009 was a gala event, attended by the Deputy Prime Minister, the Minister of the Environment and two special friends of Sir Jack Hayward. Also, the Glory Banks Art Gallery at the Rand Nature Centre has become a reality.

Work on the Primeval Forest on New Providence, which is expected to be the next park to open on New Providence, is progressing well.

Another key objective which we vigorously pursued was the development of management plans for our 25 parks, using the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park management plan as a template, and incorporating into the process the concerns of communities adjacent to each park, with special emphasis on Abaco, Andros and New Providence.

High standards and innovation continued to be trademarks in the education process at the BNT. Thousands of school children participate in conservation education programmes each year.

Providing sustainable funding for the national park system and the work of the BNT is an important priority. The government gave a vote of confidence to the BNT in 2007 by increasing funding tenfold to \$1 million per year. We were indeed grateful when they not only continued their grant of \$1 million dollars a year in the 2008 budget but allocated an additional \$250,000 for hiring park wardens.

This support from government has provided essential core funding that has greatly enhanced our ability to effectively manage the national park system. We have also received outstanding support, including several important grants, from many corporate and private entities.

Partnerships are essential to the work of the BNT. Important research, monitoring and awareness programmes were implemented through partnerships with organizations such as The Nature Conservancy, Park Flight (an initiative of the United States National Park Service), the Audubon Society, RARE Conservation, Birdlife International, American Museum of Natural History and others.

Recognizing that membership is the lifeblood of the BNT, a special membership drive and expanded electronic communications have resulted in an increase in subscriptions. The growing membership base contributes 20 per cent to the annual operating budget. And the support of our members and the public has contributed to the huge success of our annual signature events, including the Pig Roast, a new fundraising event.

This year we celebrate a significant milestone. The BNT was established in 1959, following the initiative of a group of visionary conservationists who, in 1958, petitioned the government to investigate the creation of a national park in Exuma. The result was the expedition which created the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park and recommended the formation of the BNT to manage the park and those that would be created in the future.

In this our 50th year there is much cause for celebration. We have planned a number of activities to commemorate the anniversary and I invite each of you to participate. I urge you to become more involved in the work of the BNT as we plan for the future of our national parks, which not only serve as a source of tremendous value, pride and enjoyment for the Bahamian people but also make an invaluable contribution to the world's biodiversity

A unique strength of the BNT is its collaborative nature between professional staff, scientific and technical advisors, volunteers and government representatives.

I congratulate the Council, Executive Committee, staff and volunteers of the BNT for their hard work and dedication to the vision of our founders and for helping to steer the massive transformation of the Trust.

The direction of the BNT changed with the appointment of a new management team. Under this new leadership, the BNT has improved its image as an accountable, transparent and inclusive non-governmental organisation with a viable strategic plan and a sound organisational structure.

It is indeed an honour to have served as the president of The Bahamas National Trust over the past four years.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Glenn V. Bannister', with a horizontal line underneath.

Glenn V. Bannister

President

Managing National Parks

National parks are at the heart of The Bahamas National Trust mandate. In this our 50th year we are justifiably proud of our 25 national parks and protected areas that provide critical habitat for both terrestrial and marine species.

These areas of natural habitat provide enjoyable educational opportunities for families in a safe atmosphere. They provide vegetative buffers to construction and development and help to mitigate urban sprawl. Wetland areas in the park system provide groundwater recharge, stormwater protection and act as nurseries for some of our major fishery resources. The carbon uptake from forested and abundantly vegetated areas reduces the effects of climate change.

The national park system of today represents the vision of our founders, and while we celebrate our great accomplishment we realize that there is much still to be done. We are committed not just to celebrating our national parks but to a rededication to the vision of an integrated and comprehensive system of national parks and improved access which will provide economic, educational and recreational opportunities for the nation.

This year the BNT, with other agencies responsible for protected area management, participated in the Biodiversity Convention's implementation plan for The Bahamas. This process involved an ecological gap assessment for protected areas, planning for conservation management, identification of training needs for park personnel and, most importantly, an assessment of the financial sustainability of our protected area system. This assessment identified a financial shortfall of \$93 million over the next 10 years for our protected area system. Clearly, identifying sustainable financing mechanisms for our national parks will be a priority for the BNT as we plan for the future.

2008 was a busy year for our 25 national parks stretching from Abaco to Inagua. A great deal was accomplished.



New Providence

Harrold & Wilson Ponds National Park continues to be a high priority. Additional boardwalks and a new observation deck were built at the park and additional signage was put in place. The Diamond Farms property was granted to the BNT in May by the Department of Lands & Surveys. Invasive species removal - focusing on Brazilian Pepper and Casuarina in conjunction with cattail management - continues to be one of the major activities at the park.

Bonefish Pond National Park is an amazing mangrove wetland in south New Providence, but dumping of construction debris and other inappropriate material continues to be a problem. Thirty-five tons of debris were removed during a clean up activity that included the Minister and State Minister of the Environment, BNT Executives and members, volunteer groups and the public in October 2008. The BNT is also in discussions with the principals of the South Seas development regarding their impact on this park.



Work began in the **Primeval Forest National Park** in September when Past President Pericles Maillis coordinated a work day with over

60 volunteers from the Governor-General's Youth Awards. The workers cleared the main trail and a much-needed fire break. A special committee has been formed to help in the development of this park.

Abaco

A Bahama Parrot Roundtable was held in January in Marsh Harbour to discuss threats to the parrot on Abaco and Inagua and to integrate a parrot management plan into the general management plan for the **Abaco and Inagua National Parks**.

Participating in this meeting were parrot biologists Caroline Stahala and Frank Riveira, David Wege of Birdlife International, as well as representatives from Friends of the Environment and the local Abaco hunting community.

The Discovery Land Company, developers of the Baker's Bay Golf and Ocean Club at Guana Cay, has provided funding support for a BNT office and warden based in Marsh Harbour.

In conjunction with local stakeholders, bye-laws for the Abaco National Park have been drafted and the park's management plan has been distributed to local communities.

Andros

The BNT is seeking to expand the **Andros West Side National Park** in partnership with The Nature Conservancy and the Kerzner Marine Foundation. A proposal was submitted to the Minister of the Environment in December, following planning meetings in South Andros that included scientists, local conservationists, local government officials and resource users.

The BNT has conducted extensive outreach with decision makers, coordinating visits to the area for the Deputy Prime Minister; Environment Minister; National



Security Minister; and State Minister for Social Development .

Representatives from the BNT and The Nature Conservancy were able to update government officials and College of The Bahamas faculty on the proposal during a breakfast meeting in October, when they presented the findings of a rapid environmental assessment conducted by scientists in the area.



A boardwalk and trail with interpretive signage for the pine forest ecosystem have been installed at the **Blue Hole National Park**. A new platform and observation deck have also been built with support from Birdlife International and the Jensen Foundation.

Management planning for this park began in July with a meeting in Fresh Creek

that included Ministry of Tourism officials, local teachers and bonefish guides, scientists and representatives from local non-governmental organisations.

Exuma

The **Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park** continues to grow from strength to strength. Park staff have made infrastructural improvements such as an upgraded telephone system and solar-powered channel markers. They have also installed four “No Wake” buoys in the northern creek on Shroud Cay and installed the first three “No Boats” buoys on the other creeks on Shroud Cay. These buoys are part of the implementation of the zoning plan as outlined in the general management plan.

The removal of invasive species such as Casuarinas on land and lionfish in the sea is an ongoing effort.

Grand Bahama

Phased improvements to the **Lucayan National Park** now under-way include the widening of trails, repair of the mangrove boardwalk and clearing of additional trails. A new bridge over Gold Rock Creek

was built with help from local donors. Long-serving park warden Ivan Laing retired during the year and the BNT hosted a special luncheon in his honour. Two new wardens - Prescott Gay and David Cooper - have taken up their duties with an enthusiasm and attention to detail that speaks well for the continued improvement of this park.

The Glory Banks Art Gallery was officially opened at the Rand Nature Centre in February, although it has been in use since its completion in 2006. The gallery is a fitting memorial to the unique Glory Harris Banks, who donated \$1 million to the BNT to provide a venue for young artists to display their work.



The **Rand Nature Centre** was impacted by a fire in May that damaged two thirds of the pine forest. None of the buildings on the property were damaged.

Management planning for the Grand Bahama parks began in June with a meeting at the Rand Nature Centre involving representatives from the BNT, the Ministry of Tourism and the Grand Bahama Port Authority.

Much of the progress being made in Grand Bahama is due to the BNTs newly reinvigorated Regional Branch under the leadership of Karin Sanchez.

Inagua

Inagua National Park warden Henry Nixon was recognized by the Disney Wildlife Conservation Fund as one of its 2008 Conservation Heroes. The fund recognizes those who work tirelessly to save animals, protect habitat and educate people in their communities. Mr. Nixon was nominated by the Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research in recognition of his over 30 years of support of Sea Turtle Research at the **Union Creek Reserve**.



Inagua was directly impacted by Hurricane Ike in September, but there was thankfully no loss of human life. In addition to helping the Matthew Town community rebuild, the BNT sent avian biologists Nancy Clum and Carolina Stahala to the island in October to assess the storm's ecological impact on the Flamingo and Bahama Parrot populations. Karen Bjorndal and Alan Bolten also conducted an assessment of sea turtle population at Union Creek Reserve in the wake of the storm.

Projects

The BNT submitted a project plan to the Leon Levy Foundation for the development of a native tree preserve on Eleuthera. In 2007 the foundation acquired 25 acres in Governor's Harbour for a garden focused on native flora and medicinal plants. The **Leon Levy Native Tree Preserve** was approved in December and work has begun on the property. Botanist Dr. Ethan Freid is helping to develop the main trail and Camila Adair has been hired as project manager. The preserve is expected to open in November 2009 and will play an important educational role on Eleuthera.

The BNT continues to work with Stuart Cove's Dive Bahamas to promote a marine protected area for Southwest New Providence. Project coordinator Vanessa Haley held the first stakeholder meeting in September and further meetings are planned for 2009.

Science

In January, the BNT and The Nature Conservancy coordinated a rapid ecological assessment of the **Ragged Island chain** using the John G Shedd Aquarium research vessel, Coral Reef II. Park warden Apollo Butler and Dr. Alan Bolten, of the Archie Carr Centre for Sea Turtle Research, took part in the survey.

William Mackin continued his research in the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park on Audubon Shearwaters and White-tailed Tropicbirds. Mackin's observations of rats on seabird nesting cays have caused concern, and the BNT will be working with scientists on a rat eradication programme.

A three-month monitoring study of the Bahama Parrot was conducted by Caroline Stahala in the **Abaco National Park** in the summer of 2008 and we are working to reduce the impact of feral cats within the park. Two Bahamian interns worked on this project to learn GPS monitoring techniques so they can help with future research. They also monitored the parrot nest boxes which have been placed in the park and were familiarized with the feral cat trapping programme. The BNT hopes to continue this programme in 2009.

Sea turtle research continued at the **Union Creek Reserve** in 2008. BNT wardens and interns from Inagua helped Drs Karen Bjorndal and Alan Bolten research juvenile turtles that live in Union Creek for the first





eight to 10 years of their lives. The team captured, tagged, weighed and measured 100 Green and Hawksbill turtles.

The team included two students - Gian Burrows and Mark Rolle. This is a new initiative introduced by the BNT and the Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research to involve the Matthew Town community to the scientific work that takes place in reserve.

Education

The BNTs Education Office reached a record 9,000 people during the year through formal and informal presentations at New Providence and Grand Bahama schools, churches and community groups. Presentations included puppet shows, snorkelling adventures, nature walks and tours of The Retreat, Harrold and Wilson Pond, Bonefish Pond, the Rand Nature Centre and the Lucayan National Park.

Teacher Workshops and Field Trips

Teacher workshops were held on Abaco, Grand Bahama, New Providence and San Salvador, engaging approximately 200 teachers from the public and private school systems.

Through funding provided by the Kerzner Project for the expansion of the Andros West Side National Park, two field trips for local teachers were organized to show them the ecosystem and wildlife of South Andros.

Field trips were also conducted to Harrold and Wilson Ponds National Park for staff of Mable Walker Primary, Ministry Of Education Social Studies Department and student teachers from the College of The Bahamas and Omega College.

Summer Camp

Under the theme “Dry Places and Wet Spaces”, a two-week summer camp was held at The Retreat for 74 youngsters, allowing them to explore the pine forest, coral reefs, mangroves and old growth coppice.

Participants were introduced to three national parks on New



Providence: Bonefish Pond, Harrold and Wilson Ponds and The Retreat. Exploration of West Spaces included a snorkelling trip with Stuart Cove's Dive Bahamas and a visit to Dolphin Encounters. The highlight of the camp was an overnight excursion at the Maillis Farm in Adelaide. A similar camp was held at the Rand Nature Centre on Grand Bahama.

Discovery Club Expands

In August the BNT held a week-long symposium for Discovery Club coordinators to help them organise their clubs. Activities included peer teaching activities for the badge programmes, snorkelling at Bonefish Pond National Park, first aid certification and camping theory. Special workshop sessions were held on club finance and environmental stewardship.

The symposium culminated with a camping excursion at the Maillis Farm in Adelaide. Eighteen volunteers from seven islands participated thanks to sponsorship by **ColinaImperial** as part of their ongoing grant to BNT education programmes.

Discovery Clubs have been launched on Grand Bahama, Inagua, South and Central Andros, Black Point, Exuma and Abaco. On New Providence clubs have been formed at Queen's College, Summit Academy, Carleton Francis, Garvin Tynes Primary and Nassau Village Urban Renewal. Clubs on Abaco are being supported by a grant from the **Discovery Land Company**.

Further support for the Discovery Club is being provided by **FirstCaribbean International Bank**, which has pledged \$10,000 annually to the BNT for the next three years.



Black Point Project

Juanita Munroe joined the Trust in June as Environmental Educator at the Black Point Library, Exuma. She will be integrating sustainable living practices into the science and computer education programmes at the Black Point All-age School. The goal is to promote an understanding of the need for marine fishery reserves such as the Exuma Cays Land

and Sea Park. The Black Point Project is supported by a grant from the Mactaggart Third Fund and donations from private landowners in the park.

Distance Education

Through partnership with researchers Steven Connett and Barbara Crouchly, 15 schools on eight remote islands learned about the BNT and sea turtles during the year.

Students were treated to a presentation on national parks which promotes the preservation of natural resources and the participation of family islanders in sustainable economic development. The project also allowed youngsters to participate in turtle tagging and to meet a sea turtle face to face.

Rare Pride Campaign

Initial planning for the implementation of the Rare Pintail Pride Campaign focusing on wetlands was completed and the campaign mascot, Pinny the White Cheeked Pintail, made its debut at the annual Christmas Jollification.

The campaign will implement a major educational component for schools and the general public, as well as an Adopt-A-Wetland programme. It is supported by RARE, the Audubon Society and the US National Park Service.



Membership Events

In February BNT Members enjoyed a traditional Cuban afternoon at the annual **Pig Roast** at the Maillis Farm in Adelaide. The event was coordinated by Manuel Cutillas, Mr and Mrs. Macgregor Robertson and Alexandra Maillis to fund improvements at the Primeval Forest National Park.

A special **Field Trip to Andros** was organized by the BNT in March. Thirty-five participants travelled on Bahamas Fast Ferries to Fresh Creek for a week-end experience that introduced them to the island's blue holes and mangrove wetlands. Special trips were made to the Blue Hole National Park, Maidenhair Forest and Stafford Creek.

Another field trip was organized to **Inagua** in May with the support of Morton Bahamas. Twenty-six BNT members were introduced to the island and treated to a special tour of the Morton solar salt facility. They travelled through the salt pans and were able to see flamingos, spoon-bills, cormorants and many other bird species. Union Creek was the site of a weekend BBQ with time for beachwalking, shelling and kayaking.





The BNT celebrated Independence at Harrold and Wilson Ponds National Park with a special **Family Fun Day** organized as part of the national neighbourhood celebrations. The event showcased the new boardwalks and viewing platforms at the park. Environment Minister Earl Deveau was the guest speaker.

Concern about the **invasive lionfish** led the BNT to organise a series of public meetings in partnership with the Department of Marine Resources and the Maillis family on Abaco, New Providence and Grand Bahama. The meetings introduced the public to the breeding biology of this destructive species and included demonstrations of how to clean and cook lionfish, which is considered a delicacy in the Pacific. The BNT will continue to work with local chefs and restaurants to encourage the addition of lionfish to the menu.

Migratory Bird Day in October was well attended. BNT members were treated to a bird walk at The Retreat, and a presentation on how to attract birds to your garden was well received. Participants learned what



it is like to be a migrating warbler as they played the game, Migration Headache.

The annual **Wine and Art Festival** held in October included a special members' evening and silent auction that was enthusiastically supported by BNT members. A record number of artists and artisans participated in the event which effectively launches the Bahamian holiday season. Bristol Wines and Spirits showcased their fall wine collection at the event which helps fund our national parks.

The annual **Christmas Jollification** featured record-breaking crowds, raising funds for The Retreat Garden. Cacique Food Art created a themed array of treats for the members evening and decorations portrayed "The Golden Days of Christmas". This year's Jollification recognized founders Macushla Hazelwood and Eleanor Higgs, who both passed away in 2008. The Nassau Garden Club made a special donation at the event which will fund additions to the palm collection at The Retreat. Bristol Wines and Spirits was a major sponsor, with proceeds from its Grey Goose Lounge going to support grouper conservation.



Hundreds turned out for the annual **Festival Noel in Freeport**. Over 500 guests sampled fine wines from Bristol Wines and Spirits, ate local delicacies and viewed art displays while being entertained by local musicians. Guest artist was Erik Ellis, a police officer whose colourful paintings enthralled festival-goers. A prize was awarded to the newly opened Agave restaurant for its Latin fusion cuisine. Sponsors included Sands Beer and Freeport Jet Wash.



International Partnerships

In May leaders from island nations and nations with islands held a special event during the **United Nations Biodiversity Conference in Germany**. They announced conservation commitments to protect the future of islands, backed by pledges of more than \$20 million.

At the meeting, the Global Island Partnership, sponsored by the Bahamas with the support of leaders from across the Caribbean, launched the **Caribbean Challenge**—a historic commitment to protect 10 per cent of the region's land and sea resources by 2010 and 2012 respectively.

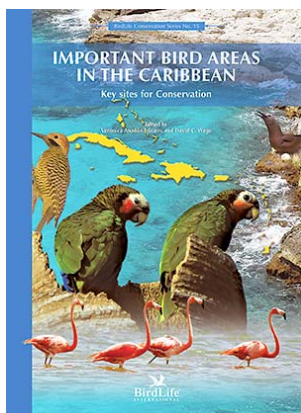
Attending for the BNT was Executive Director Eric Carey. Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham introduced the initiative via video feed from Nassau. He noted that funding would come from private and public resources committed by regional governments and international environmental organizations.

In October **the World Conservation Congress** in Spain brought together over 8,000 government officials, environmentalists, scientists, business people, NGO leaders and other delegates concerned with the fate of the planet.



In an important milestone for the Caribbean, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) launched an initiative aimed at improving ecosystem management through capacity building at all levels in the region. The Bahamas was represented by Senator Lynn Holowesko, IUCN Council member; BNT Executive Director Eric Carey; and Director of Parks and Science Tamica Rahming.

Eric Carey and Deputy Executive Director Lynn Gape attended **Birdlife International's world congress** in Argentina along with 500 others from 124 nations. The BNT was invited to make presentations on its role and governance, as well as the frequency and impact of hurricanes on protected area systems.



A **directory of Important Bird Areas of the Caribbean** was introduced at the conference. This publication is a milestone for the BirdLife Caribbean Programme, which began in 2001, and which has identified, mapped and documented 283 Important Bird Areas in the region. The BNT coordinated information for the Bahamas section of the directory under the supervision of Lynn Gape and Predensa Moore.

In Memoriam

The BNT notes with sadness the passing of two former members, Eleanor Higgs and Machushla Hazlewood. Mrs. Higgs was chairperson of The Retreat Committee for many years and was responsible for care of the palm collection. She and Mrs. Hazlewood were continually looking for innovative ways to provide financial support for the garden and it was their idea for a craft fair that gave birth to the popular Christmas Jollification that has been such a fundraising success for the past 17 years.

The BNT also mourns the passing of long-time supporters Osla Jane “Pam” Holt Dunn, the daughter of Babbie Holt who supported the creation of the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park; and Ken Massie, who served on the Marine Committee for many years before moving to Andros where he became involved with ANCAT.

Support

The BNT relies on many sources of funding to fulfil its mission. We are especially grateful to the following corporations, foundations and individuals that provided major support in 2008 (gifts of \$500 or more).

Anonymous
Allchin Foundation
Anco Lands
Peter Andrews
Asa H. Pritchard & Co
Ayco Company Cherished Traditions
Bacardi & Co
Bristol Wines and Spirits
Mr. and Mrs. Jorge Bacardi
Louis M. Bacon
Bahamar
Bahamas Home and Builders Show
Bank of Nova Scotia
Bank of Nova Scotia Trust Company (Bahamas)
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Begelman
BirdLife International
Blanche Blackwell
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bleakley
BREEF
Margaret Butler
Pheobe Cambata



Center for Ecosystem Survival
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Collins
Colin Imperial Insurance
Mr. and Mrs. Craig Conway
Fabien Cousteau
Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Cove
Credit Suisse (Bahamas)
Michael Crothers
Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Cutillas
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Daitch
Thomas Dassler
Sigrid Dassler
Jessica Malms-Dassler
Mr. and Mrs. D.C. DeLaRue
Mrs. and Mrs. Jon Doyle
Mr. and Mrs. John Ebeling
Family Guardian Insurance
First Caribbean International Bank
Jonathon Gouthro
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Graham
Bruce Griffin
Bobbie Hallig
Harcourts Developments Bahamas
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony C. Hepburn
Mr. and Mrs. Helmut Holm
Hydrologic Associates Bahamas
Jill Jollay
Carolyn Kund
Mr. & Mrs. Eric Langshaw
The Leon Levy Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Lightbourn
Sara Lobosky
David Lunn
Lyford Cay Members Club
Mr. and Mrs. Nigel Macleod
The Mactaggart Third Fund
Maillis & Maillis
Mr. and Mrs. Herman Major
The Mall at Marathon
Virginia McKinney
Mr. and Mrs. Basil Minns
Deiter Monheim
Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Morrison
Lester J. Mortimer
Morton Bahamas

Mr. and Mrs. James Mosko
Nassau Agencies
The Nature Conservancy
Nature's Way Landscaping
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Parks
Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Pinder
The Poop Deck Eagles
Rosemary Rathgeb
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Robertson
G.M. Rouzee
Royal Bank of Canada
Royal Society of St. George
Royal Star Assurance
Lillian A. Russell
Steven Sablotsky
The John G. Shedd Aquarium
Zachary Shipley
Mr. and Mrs. Bailey Smith
Starbucks Coffee Company
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Thayer
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Thomson
Rhea Thompson
Charles Townsend
William John Upjohn Charitable Lead Trust
UBS International Trust
UNEXSO
Patricia Vouch
Neils Werring
Joe Yerkes



Financial Highlights For 2007

Income

Investment income from Heritage Fund	\$	243,151
Project support from other non-profit organizations		486,430
Government grant		550,000
Proceeds from festivals and other events		89,269
Other unrestricted income		510,299
<hr/>		
Total income	\$	1,879,149

Expenses

Projects supported by other non-profit organizations	\$	373,611
Education, public meetings & conferences		74,011
Park maintenance		313,378
Management & administration		1,001,582
Depreciation of buildings & equipment		158,882
Other expenses		31,953
<hr/>		
Total expenses	\$	1,953,417

Notes on financial information

Audited financial statements for 2007 are not yet available. Copies of the financial statements of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2006, as audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers, Nassau, Bahamas, are available from our office.

The affairs of the Trust are administered by the Council and the Executive Committee, under the provisions of the Bahamas National Trust Act 1959, as amended in 1961.

The Trust prepares its financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of investments at fair value.

Ways to Give

As a non-profit membership organization, the BNT relies on donations from a variety of sources to fulfill its mission. Here are a few examples of how you can help.

Membership donation. Consider increasing your membership donation either by **cheque** payable to *Bahamas National Trust* or by **credit card**.

Corporate donation. Employers can match the charitable gifts made by their employees or donate a small percentage of every customer dollar spent. Corporations may also give to specific projects.

Land. The BNT can either preserve or liquidate gifts of land depending on their location and the wishes of the donor.

Membership gift. Purchase a gift membership for a friend or relative on birthdays and holidays.

Memorial. Gifts can be made to the BNT in memory of a loved one or in lieu of flowers.

Bequest. Gifts written in your will can take the form of money, land, a house or other asset.

Gifts of securities. Owners of stock can save on taxes by donating appreciated stock.

Donations can be tax deductible in US and Canada.

For more information please contact our Development Office.

BNT March 2007 – April 2008

Members of Council

BNT Officers

Glenn Bannister, President

Neil McKinney, Deputy President

Peter Stokes, Honourary Treasurer

Robin Symonette, Honourary Secretary

Members of Council

John F. Bethell

Michelle Bethell, Governor-General's representative

Michael T. Braynen, Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources

Daniel Brumbaugh, PhD, American Museum of Natural History

Teresa Butler

Nancy Clum, PhD, Wildlife Conservation Society

Mark Henderson

Dan Kimball, US Parks Service

Craig Lee, Audubon Society

Earlston McPhee, Ministry of Tourism

D. Stewart Morrison

Valerie Paul, PhD, Smithsonian Institution

Simeon Pinder, Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources

R. Pamela Reid, PhD, University of Miami

Beverly J.T. Taylor

Gregory Waugh, Governor-General's representative

Scientific Advisors

Karen A Bjorndal, PhD

Alan B. Bolten, PhD

BNT Staff

Eric Carey, Executive Director

Lynn Gape, Deputy Executive Director

Administration

Kaderin Mills, Human Resources and Office Manager

Therese Adderley, Finance Officer

Joanne Powell, Grants and Projects Administrator

Daphne Brooks, Bookkeeper

Lisa Wildgoose, RNC Office Manager

Shacara Scavella, Office Assistant

Tara Burrows, Support Staff

Claudette Minnis, Support Staff

Development

Natasha Wright, Director of Development

Rosita Adderley, Membership Officer

Urmie Braynen, Development Assistant

Education

Portia Sweeting, Director of Education

Cecilia Bodie, Education Specialist and RNC Administrator

Shelley Cant, Education Officer and Rare Pride Campaign Manager

Juanita Munroe, Black Point Education Officer

Tanya Ferguson, Retreat Curator

Dejacville Atilus, Retreat Gardener

Johnny Pierre, Retreat Gardener

Marcellin Dolce, RNC Gardener

Parks and Science

Tamica Rahming, Director of Parks and Science

Janeen Bullard, Parks Planner and Community Liaison Officer

Vanessa Haley, Coordinator SW New Providence Marine Park

Predensa Moore, IBA Monitoring Coordinator

Tom Barbernitz, ECLSP Administrator
Judy Estep, ECLSP Conservation Office Manager
Henry Nixon, Inagua National Park Warden
Randolph Burrows, New Providence Park Warden
Apollo Butler, New Providence Park Warden
Christopher Darling, ECLSP Warden
Prescott Gay, Lucayan National Park Warden
David Cooper, Lucayan National Park Warden
Rivean Riley, Andros Community Liaison Officer



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