



Indian Head Lehigh Neighborhood Association, Inc.

NEWSLETTER ** SPRING 1996

Greenway Creek Cleanup

The natural jewel of our neighborhood, Indianhead Creek Greenway, has been officially recognized by Governor as a **URBAN GREENWAY**.

The greenway clean up last year had over 30 neighbors showing up to help clean the trail and pull up invasive exotics that have colonized the greenway crowding out the native vegetation. The removal of the exotic vegetation will allow native vegetation to thrive and provide habitat to our native birds and other animals that use the greenway for habitat.

Show your appreciation for this greenspace and join your neighbors for a clean-up along the creek on Saturday, **April 20, 1996**. There are a number of needs along the creek: cutting back and removing vines around the trees planted nearly three years ago; clearing out some exotic, nuisance plants; removing debris from the creek, and general trail maintenance. We will meet at the Club House at Optimist Park at 9 am and will work to about noon. Bring hand clippers, gloves, etc., if you have them. If you have any questions, please call Connie Bersok at 942-7904.

YARD SALE

The Neighborhood yard sale last year at Optimist was a huge success. Over 25 neighbors brought stuff out and there was a huge turnout of both neighbors and bargain hunters.

The Neighborhood Association is planning to have another neighborhood yard sale on **May 4, 1996**, from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the open field at Optimist Park. If you plan to sell stuff there, please unload your car and then move the car to the parking area by the T-ball field.

This is a great opportunity to sell that stuff you have accumulated. It is also a good way to meet your neighbors by either participating in the sale or by browsing. Hope to see you there. For more information call Charlie or Grant.

BIRDS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Jim Cox, the bird expert of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, lives in the neighborhood and has kindly put together a list of birds that can be found in the neighborhood. Attached to the newsletter is a flyer discussing the various birds that he has identified in the neighborhood and the various habitat and time of year that they may be found in the neighborhood. I bet you never thought that so many types of birds use the neighborhood as habitat. This shows both the important of the greenway and the wood neighborhood that we live in. Next time you think of plant some new plants around the house you may

want to pick a plant that will attract some of these birds to your yard.

MORE NEWS ON THE GREENWAY

After some complaints from people in the neighborhood about a old couch and bed in the creek the Neighborhood Association wrote a letter to the City. That got their attention, phone calls were not working. The couch and bed were removed.

Also during one of the wing storms last a number of trees fell across the nature trails. The Neighborhood Association cut some of trees out of the trail and rerouted the trail around one tree. Before the Neighborhood Association could get out there some wood hobbit had cleared the trail of two large tree falls. We would like to thank the folks that have taken the time and their own incentive to maintain and improve the trail.

HOLDING PONDS

The Indian Head Creek that runs through the center of our neighborhood continues to be part of a larger scale drainage study. The City of Tallahassee recently presented the current conceptual plan to reduce flooding in the East Branch Drainage Basin, which eventuality drains into Munson Lake. The City conducted an information Open House on Saturday, March 16, and a public meeting on Tuesday, March 19, both meetings were held at City Hall.

As currently proposed, the City plans on doing work

in three locations in Indian Head Creek near the spring headwaters, near Optimist Park, and near Lehigh/Eleanor Drive.

(1) A checkdam with an outfall is proposed near the headwaters to impound storm waters and provide a lower amount of discharge following storm events; the normal base flow would be maintained at all times. This would increase the high water level from approximately 140 ft. elevation to approximately 147 ft., this seven foot increase would result in a larger wetland area than currently exists. The higher water level would occur for 2 to 3 days after the rain event. Early designs included a landscape plan which combined planting of native wetland trees with a walkway/pedestrian bridge.

(2) An outfall structure would be added to the existing culvert under Hokolin Drive, just west of Optimist Park. This weir would allow the existing base flow of water to continue, but would hold back the storm waters. Based on the design information provided, this would not increase the elevation of the high water level between Hokolin and Apakin, but it would hold that water level for a longer period of time (approximately 12 hours).

(3) An existing low-level weir is located within the creek near Lehigh/Eleanor Drives which backs up water in this area. This weir will be removed.

At this time, no engineering or environmental details have been provided. As a result, no detailed analyses have been done yet. However, this set of "improvements" appears to be less **disruptive** to the creek and our neighborhood than the plan presented nearly 5 years ago. There is the potential for some improvement by reducing erosion and flooding-, there is also the potential for the creation of a forested wetland and an extension of our trail system.

Please watch the newspaper for any developments in this plan and stay involved. You are encouraged to attend any and all public meetings to make your concerns known and to get answers to your questions. The city's point of contact for this project is Chuck Blum. If you want to let your concerns be known to the neighborhood association, contact either Connie Bersok (home: 942-7904; work 921-9875) or Grant Gelhardt (home: 942-7608).

CRIME WATCH

In the spring and summer many burglaries are crimes of opportunity. Please close and lock your windows and doors when you are not at home. Don't leave your bikes on you lawn or in an open carport!!! Put your bike behind your house, lock it up if you leave it in the carport, or put it in a shed.

The best way to insure a safe neighborhood is to know your neighbors and report any unusual activities. For more information call Pat Douglas at 656-2287.

SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE OR ACTIVITIES IN

THE NEIGHBORHOOD CALL THE POLICE

Neighborhood Watch coordinator with the Tallahassee Police Department is John Moreau - 891-4251.

PREVENT THEFT ENGRAVE YOUR BELONGINGS

The Neighborhood Association in conjunction with the Neighborhood Crime Watch program has purchased an engraver to lend to neighborhood residents. It can be used to engrave your driver's license number on valuable items prone to being stolen (TVS, VCRs, stereos, cameras, etc.). The engraver can be borrowed for one week. To borrow the engraver or for more information call Grant Gelhardt at 942-7608 (leave message).

CHURCH IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

The Tallahassee Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) bought a house in Indianhead Acres on Magnolia Drive for use as a Quaker Meetinghouse. The Meetinghouse will be used for Sunday mornir, worship services for about 25 people, and for various church committee meetings. Worship services are held in silence, without music. The meeting house would not be used for non-religious purposed, such as entertainment, day-care, etc.

The Quakers received input from the Indianhead Acres residents on the issue of a Meetinghouse in the neighborhood. It is their wish to be on good terms with the neighbors.

Hi-ho, Hi-ho, it's off to work we go...

Many people in this neighborhood are walkers, runners, bicyclists, or in-line skaters, these are great recreational uses of our streets and trails. These same streets and sidewalks also allow people to walk to work and nearby commercial centers. Until last fall, there was a commonly used walkway along a city drainage easement between Tamiami Drive and the back parking lot of Twin Towers (Department c. Environmental Protection building). The state put up a metal bar barricade on the boundary of the state property when it was determined that this walkway was unsafe. However, the only pedestrian alternative was to walk along or near the very busy St. Augustine Road. It took a number of letters and meetings with the City and various state agencies, but the walkway is being restored. A pipe will be placed in this 200 ft. long drainage ditch and covered with dirt to provide a level, safe walkway; then, the metal barricade will be removed. In the process of doing this work, the trees and shrubs that grew along the ditch will have to be removed. We will be working with the city to re-landscape the area when the work crews are done. If you want to help out with this project, contact Connie Bersok (home: 942-7904; work: 921-9875)

Neighborhood Service Directory - In our newsletter we like to print a list of services, baby sitting, tutoring, lawn care, etc., offered by neighborhood residents. If you offer you offer such a service and would like to be listed (free) in the next news letter please contact Grant Gelhardt at 942-7608 or Mary Louise Bachman at 877-6344.

Baby sitting - has own transportation - Jodie - 878-2042

Baby sitting - 8 yrs experience - own transportation - Tommie Bulloch - 877-2602

Sewing and Dressmaking - Dee Emery - 656-7757

Accounting and Tax Preparation Services - Jim Brown - 877-4463

Professional Photography - individual and family portraiture, in the Park or at your home - Mike - 942-6827

OFFICERS OF IHLNA

President: Grant Gelhardt	942-7608
Vice-pres: Ken Woodward	877-4034
Secretary: Vacant	
Treasure: Mary Louise Bachman	877-6344
At-Large: Connie Bersok	942-7904
At-Large: Charlie McCoy	878-3106
At-Large: Anita Gregory	878-5293
At-Large: Robby Turner	656-5525
At-Large: Vacant	

Membership in your IHLNA neighborhood Association is a good investment! You are helping support volunteers in your area who are willing to give their time and energy to maintain and support our quality of life in our neighborhood. For a minimal amount of money, \$5 or \$10, you are acknowledging that you appreciate the labors of your neighbors and friends who are concerned for all our well-being. In addition to your financial contribution, we need your active support of our activities. We need volunteers to help us with our projects, including the delivery of the newsletter. Our fiscal year runs January 1 through December 31. If you have made a membership contribution since January 1, 1996, you and your family are on our membership roles. If not, please complete the form below and send to the IHLNA Treasure, M. L. Bachman, 1905 Wahalaw Court.

INDIANHEAD LEHIGH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Membership ___ \$10.00 Current resident
1995

___ \$5.00 20 year resident

**Make Checks Payable to IHLNA
Mail to M L Bachman
1905 Wahalaw Court**

I am interested in participating in the following activities of the neighborhood:

These activities are open to all residents of the neighborhood

Halloween party Landscaping/Nature Trail Crime Watch

Planning/Zoning Issues Neighborhood Yard Sale Deliver News Letters

Neighborhood Association Board Member - we always appreciate any help and ideas

Comments or Suggestions _____

Licensed and Insured
Number #9320174



BUDGET TREE SERVICE

Trim • Removal • Prune

BIRDS OF NENE LAND

by Jim Cox

Our neighborhood is well known for its natural features. The numerous parks and green spaces we have, coupled with yards filled with old trees and native shrubs, are a welcome relief amid the urban landscape. Not surprisingly, the natural qualities of our neighborhood also make it attractive to many types of animals. Opossums and raccoons are probably a familiar sight around most homes, but did you know that more than 140 species of birds have also been observed in our neighborhood?

Here we provide a list of the birds of "Nene Land" in hopes that it will make your neighborhood experience more enjoyable. By far the best time to look for birds is in fall when many migratory species pass through the neighborhood (particularly along the creek side nature trail). However, watching birds at any time of the year will usually turn up something noteworthy. In summer you spend hours watching the graceful Mississippi Kites as they snag cicadas from the tops of trees. In winter, our feeders may become over burdened with sparrows, siskins, and goldfinches. And in spring, the territorial displays of hummingbirds and nighthawks are sure to arouse interest.

This list was compiled from my casual field notes based on walks around the neighborhood over the last 6 years. The list is arranged by phylogenetic order, which means simply that the list is in the same order used by field guides. If you have information on other species, please pass them along so that I can update the neighborhood birdlist. You can drop off your notes at 1503 Wekewa Nene almost anytime, or call 942-2489.

Seasonal Terms

Migrant: species found only during spring and fall migration. Spring migration runs from roughly mid March to early May, while fall migration runs from early September to mid October. There is considerable variation in the peak migration period for different species within these broad time frames.

Winter Resident: species found generally from October through approximately April, but absent during breeding season.

Summer Resident: species found generally from March through September, but absent during the winter season.

Year-round Resident: a bird found in the neighborhood in all seasons.

Abundance Terms

Abundant: likely to be seen on strolls through the neighborhood and found in most backyards.

Common: likely to be seen on most strolls through the neighborhood but may sometimes be missed; found in some but not all backyards.

Uncommon: likely to be seen on some walks in specific areas of the neighborhood, but otherwise uncommon throughout most of the neighborhood; mostly associated with various conservation easements, nature trails, storm water retention ponds, or other special features.

Rare: not regularly seen on walks, but has been observed at least five times in the neighborhood.

Accidental: fewer than 5 observations in neighborhood.

BIRDS OF NENE LAND

Common Loon: rare spring migrant; birds may be seen flying over neighborhood from mid April through early June.

Double-crested Cormorant: uncommon in winter, accidental in summer; birds may be seen flying over neighbor; may be seen frequently at storm water retention pond at corner of Orange and Jim Lee.

Anhinga: accidental in winter; rare in summer; birds observed flying over neighborhood; some may forage in nearby ponds at Blaiirstone Forest.

Great Blue Heron: rare in all seasons; birds observed flying over neighborhood; may be seen frequently at storm water retention pond at corner of Orange and Jim Lee.

Great Egret: rare in all seasons; birds observed flying over neighborhood; may be seen frequently at storm water retention pond at corner of Orange and Jim Lee.

Snowy Egret: accidental in all seasons; birds generally observed flying over neighborhood but may also forage very rarely along creek; may be seen occasionally at storm water retention pond at corner of Orange and Jim Lee.

Cattle Egret: rare summer resident; birds observed flying over neighborhood; may be seen occasionally at

storm water retention pond at corner of Orange and Jim Lee.

Little Blue Heron: accidental in all seasons; birds observed flying over neighborhood; may be seen occasionally at storm water retention pond at corner of Orange and Jim Lee..

Yellow-crowned Nightheron: accidental; 1 fly over record in late summer.

White Ibis: accidental; 1 fly over record in fall.

Wood Stork: accidental; 1 fly over record in fall; however, approximately 20 were seen last winter at storm water retention pond at corner of Orange and Jim Lee.

Canada Goose: rare year-round resident; birds observed flying over neighborhood most commonly in spring.

Wood Duck: rare summer resident; may breed in boxes in back yards; becomes uncommon in winter as birds come to urban areas to avoid hunters.

Mallard: feral birds occasionally seen year round at neighborhood ponds (e.g., on Atapha Nene).

Hooded Merganser: accidental winter resident; found

at ponds on Atapha Nene, Blairstone Forest, and storm water retention pond at corner of Orange and Jim Lee pond.

Black Vulture: rare summer resident; accidental winter resident; birds observed flying over neighborhood.

Turkey Vulture: rare in all seasons; birds observed flying over neighborhood.

American Swallow-tailed Kite: accidental spring and fall migrant; birds observed flying over neighborhood.

Mississippi Kite: common summer resident; one of our most common hawks in summer; nests most often located in pine trees.

Bald Eagle: accidental fall and very early spring migrant; birds observed flying over neighborhood.

Northern Harrier: accidental fall and spring migrant; birds observed flying over neighborhood.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: rare winter resident; these bird eating hawks may stake out feeders in winter looking for an easy meal.

Cooper's Hawk: rare winter resident, also occasionally staking out feeders; accidental summer resident.

Red-shouldered Hawk: common to uncommon year-round resident; our most common hawk year round.

Broad-winged Hawk: rare summer resident; uncommon spring and fall migrant.

Red-tailed Hawk: uncommon to common winter resident.

American Kestrel: rare to uncommon winter resident.

Merlin: accidental; 1 record in winter.

Sandhill Crane: accidental migrant primarily in fall; 2 fly over records.

Killdeer: uncommon winter resident; mostly heard flying over neighborhood but also found at larger ponds and infrequently at Optimist park.

Black-bellied Plover: uncommon in winter at the storm-water retention pond at Orange and Jim Lee.

Short-billed Dowitcher: uncommon in winter at the storm-water retention pond at Orange and Jim Lee.

Spotted Sandpiper: rare fall and spring migrant at pond on Atapha Nene and the storm-water retention pond at Orange and Jim Lee.

Least Sandpiper: rare winter resident at storm-water retention pond at Orange and Jim Lee.

Greater Yellowlegs: uncommon to rare winter resident at storm-water retention pond at corner of Orange and Jim Lee.

Lesser Yellowlegs: accidental at storm-water retention pond at corner of Orange and Jim Lee.

American Woodcock: rare fall migrant; accidental in winter; mostly observed at dusk flying along creek.

Ring-billed Gull: uncommon winter resident; mostly birds observed flying over neighborhood.

Laughing Gull: accidental year-round resident; most observations consist of stray birds observed flying over neighborhood coming from landfill far to the east.

Least Tern: accidental summer resident; nests on rooftops at a few malls in Tallahassee, and strays may be seen flying over the neighborhood.

Rock Dove: Common to uncommon year-round resident; generally seen more frequently in the northern half of neighborhood towards city.

Mourning Dove: abundant year-round resident, becoming most abundant during winter.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: uncommon summer resident; best told by call coming from the tops of trees; uncommon fall and spring migrant.

Barred Owl: uncommon to common year-round resident; familiar nighttime caller throughout the neighborhood.

Screech Owl: accidental year-round resident; 1 record for neighborhood.

Great Horned Owl: rare winter resident; restricted mostly to open areas around Parkway Baptist Church and pine forests in the 1900 blocks from Chuli Nene to East Indianhead.

Common Nighthawk: uncommon summer resident; sometimes common fall migrant when large flocks (sometimes > 50 birds) can be seen passing over the neighborhood.

Chuck-will's-widow: uncommon summer resident; best told by distinctive call given at dusk and dawn.

Whip-poor-will: accidental winter resident; sometimes heard calling in very early spring.

Chimney Swift: abundant summer resident; very large flocks may be observed during fall migration.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: uncommon summer resident; uncommon fall and spring migrant.

Rufous Hummingbird: accidental winter resident; 1 record and several unconfirmed winter hummingbirds that might be rufous or black-chinned hummingbirds.

Belted Kingfisher: uncommon winter resident and spring and fall migrant; accidental in summer.

Red-headed Woodpecker: rare summer resident and uncommon winter resident.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: abundant year-round resident.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: common winter resident.

Downy Woodpecker: common year-round resident.

Hairy Woodpecker: accidental spring migrant(?); one record.

Pileated Woodpecker: common to uncommon year-round resident.

Eastern Wood Peewee: uncommon spring and fall migrant; rare summer resident.

Acadian Flycatcher: uncommon summer resident; common spring and fall migrant.

Great Crested Flycatcher; abundant summer resident; abundant spring and fall migrant.

Eastern Phoebe: common winter resident.

Eastern Kingbird: uncommon summer resident; uncommon to common fall and spring migrant with occasionally small flocks (> 10 birds) observed.

Purple Martin: abundant summer resident.

Barn Swallow: rare fall and spring migrant; birds generally observed flying over neighborhood.

Tree Swallow: uncommon to rare winter resident; birds observed flying over neighborhood throughout neighborhood; frequently seen at storm water retention pond at Orange and Jim Lee.

Northern Rough Winged Swallow: accidental spring and fall migrant; 3 records.

Blue Jay: abundant year-round resident.

American Crow: common to uncommon year-round resident.

Fish Crow: rare to uncommon year-round resident; most often seen in flocks passing over the neighborhood.

Carolina Chickadee: abundant year-round resident.

Tufted Titmouse: abundant year-round resident.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: accidental winter resident; 1 record.

Brown-headed Nuthatch: rare year-round resident; most common in pines along the 1900 block from Chuli Nene to East Indianhead.

White-breasted Nuthatch: uncommon summer resident, becoming more common in winter.

Carolina Wren: abundant year-round resident.

House Wren: common winter resident.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: rare to uncommon winter resident; best told by faint calls coming from the tops of trees.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: common winter resident.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: uncommon year-round resident.

Eastern Bluebird: rare winter resident.

Veery: rare to abundant fall migrant; mostly in moist wooded areas along creek.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: rare to abundant fall migrant; maximum count of 3 along creek in fall.

Swainson's Thrush: uncommon to common fall migrant; maximum count of 12 along creek path in fall.

Wood Thrush: uncommon summer resident; uncommon to common fall migrant; this species has not nested in the neighborhood in the last two years because of feral cats and cowbirds. Small, linear woodland corridors such as we have along the creek are prime areas for cats to capture nesting birds. Such corridors represent population sinks for many species of birds. The problem caused by brown-headed cowbirds is discussed below.

Gray Catbird: common winter resident; common in fall and spring migration.

Northern Mockingbird: abundant year-round resident.

Brown Thrasher: abundant to common year-round resident.

Cedar Waxwing: uncommon winter resident; largest flocks observed in early spring.

Loggerhead Shrike: uncommon winter resident, mostly near open fields; accidental summer resident: 1 remained on Wekewa Nene throughout the summer of 1992.

European Starling: common year-round resident, becoming most abundant in winter; summer observations generally restricted to power transfer station near Magnolia.

White-eyed Vireo: common to abundant year-round resident.

Red-eyed Vireo: common summer resident; abundant spring and fall migrant; maximum count of 20 along creek path in fall.

Yellow-throated Vireo: common summer resident; common spring and fall migrant.

Solitary Vireo: common winter resident.

Blue-winged Warbler: rare fall migrant; accidental spring migrant.

Golden-winged Warbler: rare fall migrant; accidental spring migrant.

Tennessee Warbler: accidental fall migrant; accidental spring migrant.

Orange-crowned Warbler: uncommon winter resident.

Northern Parula: abundant summer resident; abundant spring and fall migrant.

Yellow Warbler: rare fall migrant.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: uncommon to common fall migrant; may be abundant on some days during fall.

Magnolia Warbler: uncommon fall migrant; accidental spring migrant.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: uncommon fall migrant; accidental spring migrant.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: abundant winter resident, especially around myrtle bushes.

Blackburnian Warbler: rare fall migrant.

Yellow-throated Warbler: uncommon year-round resident.

Pine Warbler: uncommon to common year-round resident; becoming most abundant in winter.

Palm Warbler: uncommon to rare winter resident; mostly found in bushy areas with an open canopy.

Black-and-white Warbler: uncommon winter resident and fall and spring migrant.

American Restart: common to uncommon fall migrant; accidental in spring.

Prothonotary Warbler: accidental spring and fall migrant.

Worm-eating Warbler: rare to uncommon fall migrant; accidental spring migrant.

Ovenbird: rare spring and fall migrant; accidental winter resident.

Northern Waterthrush: uncommon fall migrant; accidental spring migrant.

Louisiana Waterthrush: rare spring and fall migrant; accidental summer resident. A male held a territory along the creek for 2 consecutive breeding seasons (1991-92) but has not been seen since.

Kentucky Warbler: rare fall migrant; accidental summer resident: a male held a territory in the Blairstone Forest easement throughout the summer of 1994.

Common Yellowthroat: uncommon summer resident; uncommon to common winter resident.

Hooded Warbler: rare summer resident; uncommon fall and spring migrant.

Wilson's Warbler: accidental winter resident; 1 record behind power transfer station near Magnolia.

Summer Tanager: common summer resident; common to abundant spring and fall migrant.

Scarlet Tanager: rare fall migrant; accidental spring migrant.

Northern Cardinal: abundant year-round resident.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: rare fall migrant; accidental spring migrant.

Blue Grosbeak: uncommon fall migrant; rare spring migrant.

Indigo Bunting: uncommon fall migrant; rare spring migrant.

Rufous-sided Towhee: common year-round resident.

Chipping Sparrow: uncommon to common winter resident; may be abundant at some feeders in winter (flock size > 100).

Field Sparrow: uncommon winter resident; occasionally at some feeders.

Fox Sparrow: accidental winter resident.

Song Sparrow: uncommon to common winter resident.

White-throated Sparrow: common to abundant winter resident.

Dark-eyed Junco: accidental winter resident; 1 record.

Bobolink: accidental spring and fall migrant; the distinctive call notes can be heard infrequently as birds pass over the neighborhood.

Red-winged Blackbird: uncommon summer resident; common to abundant at other times of year.

Common Grackle: common year-round resident becoming most abundant as large flocks gather from fall through spring.

Brown-headed Cowbird: common summer resident; common to abundant winter resident; along with cats, this species poses a threat to nesting songbirds. Cowbirds lay their eggs in the nest of other birds, and

when the cowbird young hatch they often kick their nest mates overboard. Cowbird parasitism is particularly troublesome in small, linear woodland corridors such as along the creek. Over the past few years, most of the yellow-throated vireos nesting along the creek have been parasitized by cowbirds.

Orchard Oriole: uncommon summer resident.

Northern Oriole: rare winter resident.

Purple Finch: rare winter resident.

House Finch: uncommon year-round resident, becoming increasingly common.

Pine Siskin: rare to uncommon winter resident.

American Goldfinch: common winter resident.

House Sparrow: rare year-round resident.