

February Quiz Answers

1) Our contemporary American environmental discussion was initially started by which author who also helped found an Episcopal church in Florida?

Answer: B- Harriet Beecher Stowe helped launch the modern discussion of conservation in her writings. Carson was a Presbyterian, Hemingway a very fallen but devout Roman Catholic, and Hiaasen says his church is the outdoors, the great cathedral.

2) Which Episcopal Church did the writer attend?

Answer: D- Church of Our Saviour, Mandarin. Stowe wintered in Mandarin with her husband The Rev. Calvin Stowe. Her famous father, The Rev. Lyman Beecher, was a seminary dean and major theological force, and her sister Catherine opened two seminaries dedicated to the theological education of women, all in the mid-1800s. All were Presbyterians, very active in many causes, and Harriet most impactfully with her book *Uncle Tom's Cabin* which helped ignite the Civil War. Stowe became an Episcopalian, first in New Haven. She and Calvin conducted a mixed-race Bible study for over a decade in Mandarin. She persuaded Bishop John Freeman Young, with whom she conspired on issues of race and education of freed slaves and their children, to open a mission and once started, she and her husband attended the Church of Our Saviour (COOS) until in old age they could winter here no more, leaving after the winter of 1889.

3) What Memorial to Harriet and Calvin was erected at COOS after she had left them?

Answer: D- A stained-glass window. When Harriet Beecher Stowe left Florida to remain in New Haven, then an intellectual hotbed with the likes of herself and others like her next-door neighbor Mark Twain, she commissioned a window for COOS. The window, by Louis Comfort Tiffany, was a bucolic scene of nature, and the St. Johns River which the Church and her nearby Mandarin home overlook. This splendid Tiffany Glass window was destroyed in Hurricane Dora in 1964.

4) What books did Stowe publish to aid her cause urging her generation not to destroy God's creation?

Answers: A and B. A- *Palmetto Leaves* and B- *Calling All Yankees*. Stowe both decried the destruction she saw in the former and tried to recruit northerners to geographically increase her ranks in the latter. She wrote many articles in Northern journals focusing on the issues in the two books.

5) What specific environmental sin was the most prominent of the day for Stowe and others?

Answer: D- Plume hunting and bird slaughter for fashion. The fashion of the day used bird plumages for ladies' hats and led to massive destruction for a few feathers.

6) This carnage led to a national movement which bore a name, which was and is today?

Answer: A- The Florida Audubon was founded in 1900 as part of a growing national movement to protect birdlife and the rampant hunting of birds for their feathers. It is the third chapter in America and predates the National Audubon Society. The societal namesake is ironically John James Audubon who was a prolific slayer of birds to model and pose for his artwork. "We plan; God smiles."

7) What Episcopalian was the first president of the movement named above?

Answer: C- Bishop Henry Whipple, Bishop of Minnesota and a prominent champion of the rights and conditions of Native Americans. As he aged in his long episcopacy he wisely spent his winters in Florida. The first meeting was in his Florida home, extant as 'Audubon Birds of Prey House.' His vice presidents were the presidents of Rollins and Stetson universities. Teddy Roosevelt was an honorary vice-president.

8) What other national movements came out of this rich intellectual ferment in what was then the frontier of the Diocese of Florida?

Answer: The answer, dear reader, is all of the above. The explanation will await another day and another quiz.