



EVERGLADE KITE

THE AUDUBON SOCIETY
OF THE EVERGLADES
(serving Palm Beach County, Florida)

Volume 44, No. 3

December 2003

CALENDAR

Tues. Dec. 2nd — GENERAL MEETING

7:30 PM at Howard Park

►► Howard Park Recreation Center ◀◀

Tues. Dec 9th 8:00 am – birding at the Okeehetee Nature Center, West Palm Beach. Leader: Ethel Kujanpaa

Sat. Dec. 13th 8:00 am – birding at the Wakodahatchee Wetlands, Delray. Leader: Doug Beach

Sat. Jan. 3rd – Christmas Bird Count

For more information contact Gloria Hunter at 561 – 585 – 7714

Sat. Jan. 3rd 9:00 am – birding at John Prince Park (at the Custard Apple Trail Nature Walk), Lake Worth. Leader: Bruce Offord.

TUESDAY Dec. 2nd, PROGRAM

Claudine Laabs, Program Chair

THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE ENDANGERED:
Protecting Endangered Species
By Laura Geselbracht

How to save habitat for native wildlife is a serious challenge in South Florida as population pressures seem overwhelming. To help us get a perspective, Laura Geselbracht, the Conservation Planner for the Nature Conservancy, will give us a program about planning for endangered species protection.

Laura Geselbracht received a bachelors degree in Marine Biology from the U. of California at Santa Barbara and her masters degree in Marine Environmental Policy and Planning from the U. of Washington, Seattle. She joined the Nature Conservancy in South Florida in 1995 and is currently coordinating a Coastal Florida Marine Ecoregional Plan.

Please join us for the program after the holiday buffet (7 P.M.) at the Howard Park Community Center.

NOTE: There will be a "Species at Risk" art exhibition at the Nature Conservancy's Blowing Rocks Preserve beginning January 17, 2004

CORRECTIONS TO THE ASE BROCHURE

Please make note of these minor corrections to the 2003/2004 brochure, which you received with October's newsletter.

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Linda Most Field trips & Membership 561- 626-8844

Wildlife Alert Hotline on your cell phone - #FWC
(not #SWC)

For the Belle Glade field trip:

SAT. Jan. 17 at the Belle Glade Campground.
Meet at Target, beside garden center, on Southern Blvd.
at St. Rd. 7/441 at **7:00 am to carpool**. Field trip starts at 8:00 am. Bring lunch. Leader: Chuck Weber.





PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

— Carol Shields —

Well, the holidays are upon us once again and I like to keep my article light this time of year, so here is something to ponder.

You're a lot smarter than you realize. And there are many out there who are not as smart as you might realize. You are probably saying, "Now, tell me something I don't know." Well I will, or at least hope to.

I'm sure there were times you have gone to meetings and/or social events where there is someone talking who seems very intelligent. He/she speaks about issues or events that might seem confusing to you; perhaps mysterious by using words unfamiliar to you. 'Gosh' we think to ourselves, 'I can't fully grasp what that person is talking about so he/she must really be intelligent.'

When listeners hear information they don't understand they assume the fault is with them, not the speaker. Adults who lack a good education are easily misled into believing these mysterious people are highly intelligent just because they can't understand what they are saying. It's obvious, too, that with a good education it isn't easy to be misled, but even when we consider ourselves fairly intelligent, we think these types of speakers must be brilliant. A prime example would be some politicians whom you might have heard speak at one time or another. Their speech might be full of rhetoric and confusing political terms. Awed at first, at some point you must say to yourself, 'just what is he saying?.'

If we simply have more confidence in ourselves, we would not be so susceptible and accepting of everything at face value just because we don't understand what the speaker is saying. As we often hear expressed, "They put their pants on one leg at a time." They are just like you, but he/she shows confidence and comes across as a more charismatic, believable person.

If I were to listen to a speaker who was prolific with \$10 words, versus a speaker who spoke more down- to-earth, I would probably listen more to what the earth-bound speaker had to say. Not only because I could take in more of what he said, without having to decipher every word, but also because he/she is intelligent enough to talk to the masses in terms most can grasp.

So have more confidence in yourself. Listen to what people, particularly our elected politicians, have to say or are trying to hide. It might open up your eyes.

Have a wonderful, safe Holiday season.



HOLIDAY DINNER



ASE is, once again, having our annual holiday pot-luck dinner at our new location, the Howard Park Community Center. We don't want to skip a beat. However this year is a tiny bit different.

Since we only have use of the Community Center from 6:30 until 9 p.m. we will be serving our buffet at 7 p.m. Afterwards, the guest speaker will give her presentation while we enjoy coffee and dessert.

I think I can speak for all our members who attend, that the dishes brought to share have been delicious, and hope many of you will opt to make your favorite dish this year to share at our dinner.

Don't know what to make? Give our hospitality co-chairs a call, Sheila (627-0510) or Mary Lou (533-0216), to see what's needed on the menu. ASE will provide the meat and refreshments. Come and enjoy the wonderful group of people who are part of this chapter and please feel free to bring a guest. See you December 2!

GREETER SIGN-IN

Just a reminder to sign in at the door when you come to the general meetings at Howard Park Community Center. Our friendly greeter, Barbara Reineker, has the sign-in sheet and guest book ready for you as you enter the room.

ASE would like to wish you a

***HAPPY and SAFE
HOLIDAY SEASON!***



Dear Auduboners: **THANK YOU !**

Several weeks ago we sent a letter asking you to contribute toward the programs of our chapter. As of this writing(11-7-03) we want to thank the following people who have responded in such a generous manner. If your name does not appear here and you have contributed towards our effort, please be assured that we will list you in next month's newsletter.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth W. Gunther
Dolly Reporter
Katherine Stambaugh
Karen S. Berman
Mr. and Mrs. James Langman
Marjorie Gelber
Debra Jenks
Claudette Culian
Joan E. Davis
Ellen Wojtach
Edna Y. Stephens
Cynthia Plockelman
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Joe Reed
Richard Lancaster
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Iverson
Dr. and Mrs. Patrick Gleason

Winter's Edge

© Tammy Peebles

Icy streams
To lakes are fed
Slowing down
With Winter's edge

Swirling winds
Wrap `round my face
Traveling past
With hastened pace

Leafless trees
A naked charm
Reaching out
With barren arms

Moonless sky
All dark and dreary
Hiding light
With blackened fury

Heavy clouds
Hold fingered blooms
Passing by
With midnight's gloom



Are you a **Florida Master Naturalist?**

Have You Ever Wanted to Learn to be a Florida Master Naturalist or even wondered what one is? Well you're in luck because here are the details!

The University of Florida's IFAS Extension services offers a program designed to educate People about the many aspects of Florida's environment. It is offered in 3 separate modules consisting of the Coastal Systems, The Wetlands, and the Uplands Module. When you have taken, and graduated from, a certain module you become a Master Naturalist for that particular section (example: FL Coastal Master Naturalist). When you have taken, and graduated from, ALL three modules you then become a Florida Master Naturalist. It is offered at different locations in Palm Beach county and throughout all of Florida.

This program is a wonderful way to learn more about FL. After taking the classes you will be filled with a wealth of knowledge which can help you to teach others about Florida's environment and it's habitat, or simply to give you delight in learning new things.

To learn more about the Florida Master Naturalist Program (FMNP) visit their web-site at:
<http://www.masternaturalist.org/>

Memberships in the National Audubon Society make great gifts!

In Florida, a special 3-way membership automatically makes you a member in the National Audubon Society, Audubon of Florida and Audubon Society of the Everglades. Your membership will include subscriptions to AUDUBON Magazine and the EVERGLADE KITE.

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How did you hear about us? _____

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Membership Chair
Audubon Society of the Everglades

PO Box 16914

West Palm Beach, FL, 33416-6914

E00 7XCH

The Audubon Society of the Everglades General Meetings are held
the first Tuesday of every month, 7:30 p.m. at Howard Park Recreation Center in West Palm Beach.
The public is welcome.

Deadline for submissions for the **Jan. 2004** issue is **December 10th.**

Audubon Society of the Everglades

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FL, 33416-6914

Non-profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
West Palm Beach, Florida
Permit 46

The Everglade Kite
is published 12 times a year

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PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER