

EVERGLADE KITE

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

Volume 44, No. 11

August 2004

CALENDAR

Duda Farms Field Trips Gloria Hunter

August brings our annual visits to the flooded fields of Duda Farms in Belle Glade to look for the shorebirds and wading birds that concentrate on these fields. The dates will be Saturday August 14 and Saturday August 21. The fewer the number of cars involved in these trips, the more enjoyable they are for everyone, so please plan to carpool and to limit your participation to one trip only!

Please meet at the Target store at the northeast corner of the intersection of Southern Blvd (State Rd. 80) and 441/State Road 7. We park on the west side of the parking lot, next to the Garden Center. Carpooling is required and we leave Target at 7:00 a.m. Return to the coast will be around 12:00, noon.

Come with a full tank of gas; bring binoculars and spotting scopes, fluids, snacks, sunscreen, and hats. There will be very little walking but expect intense heat and glare. We will see myriad migrating shorebirds and spectacular gatherings of our local wading birds.

Please note that we are responsible for everyone arriving and departing as a group. The farms are private and not open to the public and we have special permission from the Duda Farms management to bird on their property for these two annual field trips.

For questions, please call me at 561-585-7714.
Please DO NOT call Duda!

TUESDAY August 3rd, PROGRAM

FUN WITH PHOTOS

It's show time again! Gather together your favorite photos from the past year and get ready for "Show and tell." Bring prints, slides (limit 15), or digital with your own laptop. Please bring only nature photographs with no man-made objects unless the photo is taken during an ASE field-trip. We will provide the projector.

The photography show will be followed by an ice cream social!



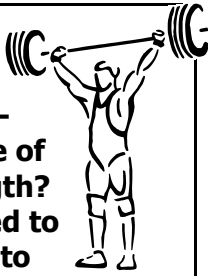
Please join us at 7:30pm on August 3rd at the Howard Park Community Center.

"We can share the earth and take care of it together, rather than trying to possess it, destroying the beauty of life in the process."

The Dalai Lama

~ **President's comment** ~

Claudine Laabs



To the gentlemen at our meetings – may we take advantage of your superior muscular strength? Before the meeting chairs need to be set up and after they need to be put away. Thanks for your help.

1st Lake Worth Lagoon Bird Count

The Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management (ERM) contacted our Audubon Chapter and asked if we would be interested in participating in a quarterly bird count of Lake Worth Lagoon. Ginny Powell was the environmental analyst for the county. Cynthia Plockelman, Audubon Board Member, was the organizer.

The Lagoon was divided into five zones from John D. MacArthur Park to Boynton Inlet . On June 18 and June 19 sixteen people surveyed these five different zones of Lake Worth Lagoon. The birders went by boat at low tide, when the sand flats were exposed and accessible to birds in the waterway.

Forty-eight different species were found. Some of the most unusual birds were Rosette Spoonbill's at MacArthur Park, Sandwich Terns at Peanut Island, and American Oystercatchers found in Zone 3. A Yellow-crowned night heron's nest was discovered at Fisherman's Island with two chicks in it. Everyone had a great time. Birders aim to provide a baseline database on the Lake Worth Lagoon. Experienced birders interested in participating in county-wide migration counts and special surveys, may contact: Cynthia Plockelman at 561-585-1278.

John's Island Planting

On June 26, 2004 over 70 people, including members of our Chapter, Audubon Society of the Everglades (ASE), participated in the planting of 6,000 Red Mangrove trees on John's Island. John's Island is located in the Lake Worth Lagoon, also know as the Intracoastal Waterway. Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Management and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have begun a \$900,000 restoration project of John's Island. Elizabeth Blossom, Frances Bolton, and Henry and Melissa Bingham donated four islands to the Town of Palm Beach as bird sanctuaries. In 1942 these islands were leased to the National Audubon Society. The ASE has been supervising these islands, which includes John's Island.

Exotic vegetation and dredged materials have been removed from John's Island over the last year. Tropical hammock and native grasses have already been planted. Channels were carved into the island to restore wetlands. The Red Mangrove seedlings were planted about 12 to 18 inches apart and will grow 6 to 8 feet within 10 years. When they are mature, they will reach 30 feet. Jeff Koons, Palm Beach County Commissioner, was on the island helping with the planting. Jeff Koons said that this is an ongoing project to restore the mangroves and waterways of the Intercoastal over the next 20 years.

Claudine Laabs, President of ASE, spotted two American Oystercatchers on the south side of the Island. It looks like the birds approve of the restoration and have adopted the island. If anyone would like to volunteer for the coastal cleanup on September 18, involving the sanctuary Islands, please contact Claudine Laabs at 561-655-9779.

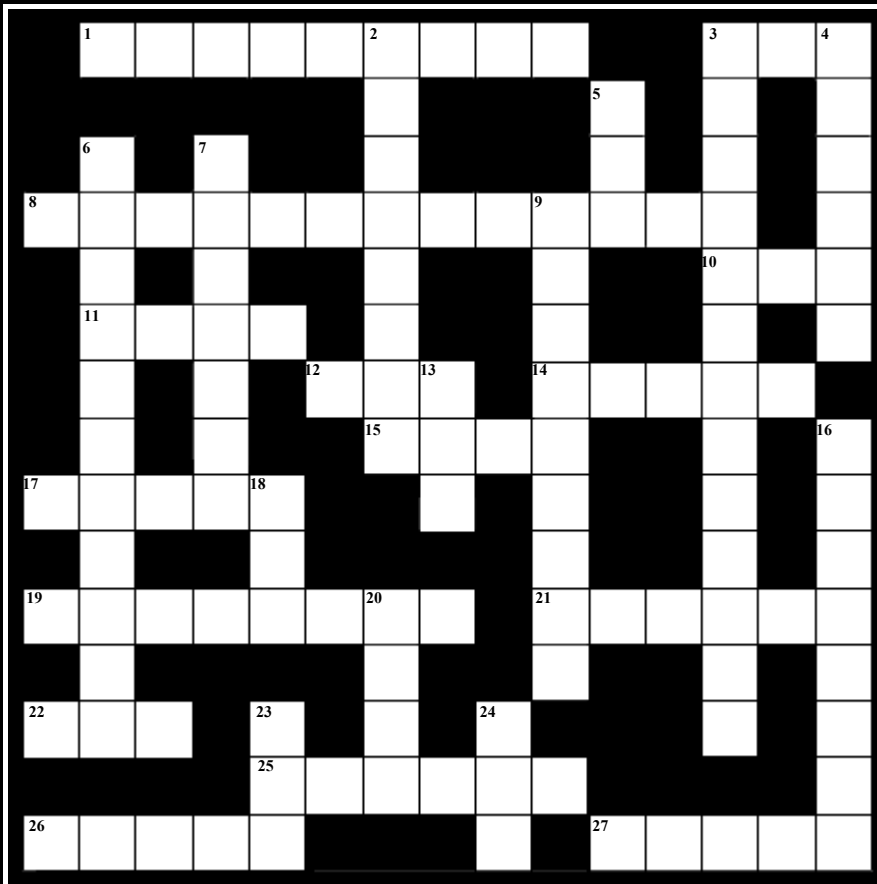
▶ ▶ **Looking For a Place to go on Vacation?** ◀ ◀

The Hobe Sound Nature Center is sponsoring a trip to the Asa Wright Nature Center and Lodge in Trinidad. The Center is noted for its diversity of flora and fauna. Anyone interested should write the Hobe Sound Nature Center P. O. Box 214, Hobe Sound, Florida 33475 or call 772-546-2067. Their website is www.hobesoundnaturecenter.org

LIFE IN THE GREAT STATE OF FLORIDA



Created by: Tammy R. Peoples
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ACROSS

1. Sharks have no bones. Their skeleton is made up of _____.
3. What birds do.
8. The Florida state butterfly.
10. Florida is one of the leading states for cattle and dairy ranching. When around a ranch you can often hear a cow do this.
11. There are three kinds of this form of duck; one being cinnamon.
12. Mammals have it.
14. Woodpecker which has a white back but isn't Hairy.
15. This plant can be found hanging from many oak trees. Although it's common name suggests it is "Spanish" it is not (Legend tells of the name because it looks like a Spanish beard). This plant is also a relative of the pineapple.
17. Birds do it to clean their feathers.
19. The _____ forest is established on stable dune habitats and makes up part of the coastal uplands habitat.
21. An American visitor from the north recognizable by it's brick red breast and dark gray back.
22. Cumulus Nimbus are found here.
25. A Mexican invasive exotic bug which is known for killing Florida's native bromeliads. It has earned the nick-name the "Evil _____."
26. This kind of *apple* makes up part of the Limpkin's diet.
27. You can watches these kinds of birds, but you can't fly them.

DOWN

2. Highly invasive *climbing* fern.
3. The major threat to biological diversity is loss and _____ of natural habitats.
4. You can tell the difference between a cattle and snowy egrets because the snowy has _____ feet.
5. There are two kinds of this type of bird in Florida: the Smooth-billed and the Groove-billed.
6. It's a sea turtle which feeds primarily on jellyfish. It doesn't have a shell, instead it has a rubbery skin-like carapace, and it is the largest sea turtle (weighing up to 2000 lbs.)
7. The knees of a cypress tree allow it to _____.
9. Large wading bird with a bald head which is on the endangered species list.
13. The general name for fish eggs.
16. Marsupials which will "play dead" in certain situations. They are also the only Florida mammal with 50 teeth.
18. Pecans are a _____ which grow on trees found in northern Florida and are a source of food for squirrels and deer in the wintertime when other foods are not as available.
20. If the temperature of an alligator nest is 93°F or higher, the young will be this sex (which is the opposite for turtles)?
23. It will give you a hoot.
24. The rite whale was given it's name because, during whaling days, it was the rite whale to hunt for it's plentiful amount of _____.

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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 phone number for the Recreation center is: 561-835-7055. The public is welcome to attend.

Deadline for submissions for the **September 2004** issue is **August 10th**.

Audubon Society of the Everglades

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