

EVERGLADE KITE

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

Volume 45, No. 7

April 2005

>>> CALENDAR <<<

TUES. April 12, 8:00 a.m. Grassy Waters Preserve and Apoxee Park. 8264 Northlake Blvd. WPB. Meet at Grassy Waters, south side of Northlake Blvd. one mile west of Beeline Highway. Leader: Barbara Liberman.

SAT. April 16, 8:00 a.m. Spanish River Park, Boca Raton. Meet at south side of Spanish River Blvd. just west of A1A. Leader: Chuck Weber.

SAT. April 16, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. The 9th Annual NatureScaping Event, John D. MacArthur Beach State Park.

SAT. April 23, 8:00 a.m. Frenchman's Forest Preserve and other areas, Palm Beach Gardens. Meet as above. Leader: Marvin Greenberg.

SAT. April 30, 8:00 a.m. Spanish River Park, Boca Raton. Meet at south side of Spanish River Blvd. just west of A1A. Leader; Ray Bucholtz.

SAT. May 7, 8:00 a.m. Spanish River Park, Boca Raton. Meet at south side of Spanish River Blvd. just west of A1A. Leader: Brian Hope.

TUES. May 10, 8:00 a.m. Boynton Inlet and Mangrove Park. A1A south of Manalapan. Meet at south side of inlet. Leader: Dorothy Brindle.

SAT. May 14, Spring Migration Count.
Compiler: Cynthia Plockelman, 561-585-1278.

~ **Field Trips** ~
Gloria Hunter

The South Florida Water Management District is escorting bird trips in STA-1W from 8:30 to noon on the following Saturdays: April 9 and April 16.

Admission is by reservation only (no fee). STA-1W is just west of 20-mile Bend on S.R. 880. For reservations and instructions call Lois Chapman at the Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, 561-734-8303.

TUESDAY April 5th, PROGRAM

AUDUBON OF FLORIDA'S NEW DIRECTION
by David Anderson

David Anderson became Audubon of Florida's new Executive Director a year ago and announced that his emphasis will be on conservation.

"Simply stated, time is running out for the places that make Florida special . . . it will take all of us – working with government, industry and the development community. It will be hard work – helping find ways to protect land through zoning processes and by acquiring sensitive lands. . ."

David Anderson has over 35 years experience in environmental education and advocacy with the New Orleans Zoo and as Director of the San Francisco Zoo. He believes that there are three basic elements of conservation work: gather the facts, involve the local community and ensure your programs actually preserve wildlife.

He warns that there are no quick fixes and is "thrilled about leading Audubon of Florida into its second century of conservation . . . the Everglades ecosystem is important to the whole world."

Please join us for the meeting at the Nature Center at MacArthur Beach State Park at 7:30 P.M. on April 5. (The park is located on the north end of Singer Island, 10900 State Road 703. Take PGA Boulevard east, cross U.S. 1, go over a small bridge, past Lost Tree Village and look for the entrance on your left. The picnic pavilion is behind the Nature Center.)

NOTE: The buffet dinner begins at 6 P.M. Audubon will provide the main course. If your last name begins with A-L, please bring a vegetable dish and if your last name begins with M-Z, please bring a dessert. There is a \$4 per vehicle entry fee. You may want to come early and enjoy a walk or kayak ride. Call 624-6952 for kayak reservations.

President's Comments

by Claudine Laabs

Since our guest speaker David Anderson asked for a birding walk before our meeting, we will be having our Annual Meeting in a beautiful park – the MacArthur Beach State Park

on Singer Island! If it is possible to arrive early, please come and enjoy this unique park in our area. We hope that this will bring out some of our north county members who don't usually attend our monthly meetings and next year we will plan our annual meeting in south end of our county.

Beginning Birding Class by Clive Pinnock

April 2, 9 a.m., April 9, 7:30 a.m.
Okeehetee Nature Center
7715 Forest Hill Blvd
West Palm Beach, FL 33413
\$15 includes 2 sessions
Call 561-233-1400 for reservations

Thanks
Linda Humphries
ASE Community Relations

Rising Above the Rainforest: A Trip to Panama

October 29-November 2, 2005

Join us on an adventure to Central America in beautiful, lush Panama. The trip includes air and transportation to/from Miami Airport departing on Saturday, October 29. You arrive in Panama that afternoon for 5 days and 4 nights in the rainforests of Central America. All your meals and tips are included so you can relax and enjoy birding with experienced guides. Over 280 listed bird species are found in the rainforests of Panama. Enjoy a side trip to Panama City for lunch and a stop at the famous Panama Canal.

Accommodations are at the Canopy Tower Ecolodge, located in the Soberania National Park. Canopy Tower is a converted radar tower that reaches over the rainforest for a bird's eye view from the 360-degree observation deck. Double-occupancy sleeping quarters are at treetop level, no more than 40 feet from the birds perched right outside your window. Canopy Towers was highlighted in the August 2004 issue of Audubon magazine as one of the premiere birding locations in Central America. The Canopy Tower is also a great place for those with a general interest in exploring the tropical forest reflecting Soberania's extraordinary diversity.

If you're interested in joining this adventure, reservations by deposit are on a first-come basis. A \$1000 deposit is due no later than April 1. I have handed out detailed trip information to more folks than there is space for and you don't need to wait until the April deadline. Audubon offers this trip at a very special rate of \$1800, and is limited to 10 guests.

For further information call Carol Shields, First VP,
at 561-964-1522 or e-mail at clsaudubon@yahoo.com.

NatureScaping 2005 And Earth Day Celebration John D. MacArthur Beach State Park

Remember to mark it down on your calendar. The ninth annual NatureScaping Event will be held at John D. MacArthur Beach State Park. This year's event will be bigger and better than ever. There will be kid's crafts, environmentally themed vendors, wonderful speakers, food and music. If you want to add some beauty and wildlife to your yard, there will be a wide variety of NATIVE PLANTS for sale. Combined with the celebration of Earth Day, the event will take place on Saturday, April 16, 2005 from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Remember to bring the whole family out to one of the most beautiful settings in Palm Beach County.

Vendors will be selling bird houses, bat boxes, art, books and more. Get up close and personal with a live snake. Listen to talks on everything from sea turtles to raptors. Join a naturalist led walk through a tropical hardwood hammock. If that's not enough, you can sit back and enjoy some local music or learn a thing or two from one of the many environmental exhibitors.

Best of all, there will be a large variety of native plants to choose from. Buy top quality, hard to find native plants from local growers. Learn from the experts why native plants are the Florida friendly choice. They will have your yard buzzing with wildlife while reducing the use of fertilizers and pesticides.

So don't forget to come out on April 16. Entrance to the park is free. Buy a native plant, meet a sea turtle or just sing along to some good music. Remember to bring the kids and enjoy a day of celebration and learning.

This event is sponsored by: The Palm Beach Post, Palm Beach County Chapter Florida Native Plant Society, Audubon Society of the Everglades and Friends of John D. MacArthur Beach State Park.

It's That Time Again

Susan Snyder, Education

CARA-----CARA, CARA, CARA calls the crested caracara as she throws her head back, facial skin turning yellow from excitement. Yes, it is time for the Eagle Lady, Doris Mager, to visit some of our local schools. For years Doris has brought her educational program about birds of prey to Palm Beach County thanks to the support of Audubon Society of the Everglades. In that time she has given school programs to thousands of students. Last year 2,200 children learned about birds of prey, conditions that threaten them, feeding and care, and laws governing threatened and endangered species. If conditions are optimum, she will fly the birds for the students. In 2004 Doris appeared at Polo Park Middle School, Jupiter High School and Morikami, Timber Trace, Westgate, Northmore and North Grade Elementary schools. Traveling all over the U. S. the Eagle Lady has had a major impact on increasing children's understanding and appreciation of birds. We thank her for sharing her enthusiasm and commitment with our local students!

From The Desk of our Treasurer:

Thank You

On behalf of the Board of Directors of our chapter we want to thank those who have responded to our annual appeal. In addition to the people we listed in the February Kite, additional donors include:

Gertrude Hertz
Nancy Gunther
John W. Kennedy
R. Brant Snyder
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Sally Yates
Shelia Caulderon

To date, our net receipts come to \$4,207.54. We hope more of our membership will answer this annual appeal. If you misplaced your envelope you can still send contribution to Audubon Society of the Everglades, P. O. Box 16914, West Palm Beach, Florida 33416.

Again, thanks to all who have responded.

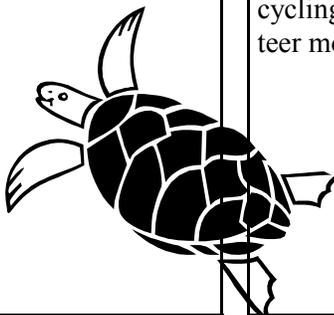
“Character is doing the right thing when no one else is watching.”

~~ J. C. Watts ~~

Have You Ever Visited the Marinelifelife Center?

Each year the Marinelifelife Center cares for approximately 50 sick or injured turtles. Over 80% of the turtles they treat are able to be released back into the ocean. Each season they also care for more than 1000 tiny hatchlings, giving them a second chance at survival before they are released at sea.

The Marinelifelife Center of Juno Beach is open: 10am-4pm Tuesday thru Saturday 12pm-3pm Sunday. They are located at 14200 US Hwy. One, in Juno Beach Fl. And can be reached at 561-627-8280.



Do You Do Your Part?

Each year hundreds of innocent creatures (and even humans on several occasions) die due to entanglement by monofilament line and other litter discarded by wasteful habits.



The Monofilament Recovery & Recycling Program (MRRP) is a statewide effort to educate the public on the problems caused by monofilament line left in the environment, to encourage recycling through a network of line recycling bins and drop-off locations, and to conduct volunteer monofilament line cleanup events.

To find out more about the MRRP visit the website at:

<http://www.fishinglinerecycling.org/index.asp>

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

Deadline for submissions for the May 2005 issue is **April 10th.**

Audubon Society of the Everglades

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561-588-6908

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