CALENDAR
TUES. Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m. 
Howard Park, West Palm Beach.  
Monthly program.
SAT. Feb. 10, Everglades Day. 
TUES. Feb. 13, 8:00 a.m. 
Okeeheelee Nature Center, 7715 Forest Hill Blvd., West Palm Beach. North side of Forest Hill, 1 mile west of Jog Road (east of turnpike). Meet at Nature Center. Leader: Ethel Kujanpaa.
Fri–Mon. Feb. 16-19 
Great Backyard Bird Count. Count all the birds you see. For more information, visit www.birdsource.org/gbbc.
SAT. Feb. 17, 8:00 a.m. 
Belle Glade Campground. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Kmart on NW corner of Southern Blvd (SR80) and 441/ SR7; park next to Garden Center. Bring lunch. Leader: Chuck Weber.
SAT. Feb. 24, 8:00 a.m. 
STA-1. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Kmart, as above. Coordinator: Ben Kolstad
SAT. March 10, 8:00 a.m. 
Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, Naples. Carpool trip. Details in next month’s Kite.
TUES. March 13, 9:00 a.m. 
Grassy Waters Preserve, 8264 Northlake Blvd., West Palm Beach. Meet at parking lot, south side of Northlake Blvd, 1 mile west of Beeline Hwy. Leader: Barbara Liberman
Fri-Sun. March 23-25 
St. Petersburg. Audubon Academy. Details in next month’s Kite.

Program for Tuesday, February 6th
Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee Refuge Update
Just in time for Everglades Day (February 10th), we are pleased to have Mr. Mark Musaus, Manager of the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge as our featured speaker for the February 6th meeting. Mark, born in Caracas, Venezuela and raised in Park Ridge, New Jersey, has managed the refuge since 1998. The ARM Loxahatchee Refuge is just one of 520 refuges in United States, comprising about 221 square miles surrounded by a 57 mile canal and levee. It is in continued conflict with the multitude of developments and the Everglades Agricultural Area. Mark will present to our membership a current report on the health of the refuge, how the exotics are affecting the refuge, the quality of the water, plus new improvements being introduced at the refuge.
Please join us at Howard Park Community Center at 7:30 p.m. on February 6th for this informative program.

Christmas Bird Count Results
The 40 people taking part in this year’s West Palm Beach Christmas Bird Count got a few breaks and put in some long hours. A few breaks: several species seen on count day have only been seen once or twice or not at all since; one area that yielded two species seen only there, and only by one team, has since been drastically altered by development. (Our birding teams may have gotten a break, but the birds didn’t.)
But our birders’ dedication paid off. The 11 teams of counters (down from 12 last year) recorded 140 species, an increase of 3 over last year. 140 is a more than admirable number, given the level of development in our Count Circle—and the fact that it was a pretty windy day.
The highlight was the Eared Grebe at Green Cay Wetlands, a rare bird for Florida. For more than a month, birders had come from all over South Florida to see the Grebe. And it was still around on count day!
There were other good finds too. 10 species of ducks was the most we’ve had in several years. 13 shorebird species is also good considering our habitat.
We had some disappointments, too. Although seen during count week, Northern Flicker was missed on count day—the first time since the 1950’s on our Count. We also failed to find Northern Rough-winged Swallow, which had been seen every year since the early 60’s.
Familiar winter visitors such as American Robin, Cedar Waxwing, and American Goldfinch were once again very scarce this year. I guess we can blame the warm weather everywhere.
We’ll see if we can top 140 species next year. It will likely be tough.
Rare Blue Treefrog Discovered at Audubon of Florida’s Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary

Corkscree Swamp Sanctuary Director Ed Carlson is proud to announce the discovery of a bright blue treefrog. Volunteer naturalists noticed the frog along the Sanctuary’s boardwalk trail and alerted natural resources manager Mike Knight, a Ph.D. candidate in vertebrate ecology who specializes in reptiles & amphibians. Knight identified the frog as a Green Treefrog (Hyla cinerea), a common denizen of Corkscrew Swamp.

The normal green coloration of frogs is actually the result of overlapping yellow and blue pigments. Very rarely, a genetic anomaly results in an absence of one or more color pigments. In this case, the absence of all yellow pigmentation has resulted in a totally blue frog instead of a green one.

Dr. Jerry Jackson, Professor of Environmental Studies at Florida Gulf Coast University confirms that the blue frog is a truly extraordinary find. According to Jackson, the color blue is very rare in nature but does sometimes occur in frogs, snakes, and other animals.

Currently, the blue treefrog is being cared for by Knight, who has extensive experience raising treefrogs as part of his doctoral dissertation research. Following acclimatization to terrarium life, the extraordinary little frog will be displayed to the general public for a period at Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary. Staff and volunteer educators will accompany the frog, answering questions and enlightening the public on the importance of wildlife conservation.

For more information on Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, please call (239)-348-9151 or www.corkscrew.audubon.org.
Everglades Day 2007

It’s time to get back to nature! *Explore the Everglades* is the theme for 2007. The goal will be to get people out on the trails by offering many kinds of special walks. Of course there will be plenty of animal presentations, exhibitors, food and music. And it’s completely free!

Featured special speakers are sisters **Janet Reno**, former U. S. Attorney General, and **Maggy Hurchalla**, environmentalist and former Martin County Commissioner. They will share some of their childhood memories of the Everglades, “Lost in the Everglades” at noon in the pavilion. **Nick Aumen** will present updates on Everglades Restoration at 11am.

Volunteers are still needed. Call Susan at 627-7829 or email roy sue@bellsouth.net.

**WHEN:** February 10, 2007 8AM - 4 PM

**WHAT:** All day 8th Annual Everglades Day featuring exhibits, presentations, nature walks, canoeing, children’s activities, live music, and food.

**THEME:** *Explore the Everglades*   **COST:** Free

**WHERE:** Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge

10216 Lee Road, Boynton Beach off State Road #7/U.S. 441 (2 miles South of Boynton Beach Blvd. or 3 miles north of Atlantic Avenue, Delray Beach).

**PARKING:** Free off-site parking at Monte’s Packing House 1/2 mile south of the refuge. Shuttle bus service and trolley service will be available.

**HIGHLIGHTS** (subject to change)

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<tr>
<td>9am</td>
<td>Bird Walk w/ Ben Kolstad</td>
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<td>10am</td>
<td>Raptors w/ Clive Pinnock</td>
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<td>Busch Wildlife Sanctuary</td>
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<td>12pm</td>
<td>Snakes w/ Don Campbell</td>
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<td>1pm</td>
<td>Alligators &amp; Crocodiles</td>
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**We greatly appreciate the response to our Annual Appeal letter. We are still getting responses but we did not want any more time to pass without saying how grateful we are for your contributions to continue our chapter’s work. As of this writing we have received a total of $7,385. The printing and mailing expense came to $882.13. Our net amount comes to $6,502.87. Those who have contributed to date (January 10, 2007) include:**

- Joan Abess
- Jane Ackerman
- Art by LaFogg
- Barbara Balint
- Terry and Soni Baltimore
- Linda Bishop
- Terrance Brown
- Marvin and Sheila Calderon
- John Canning
- Lawrence Chanzit
- Nancy Goodwin Cobb
- Ruth Cosgwell
- Barbara Coners
- Dean Surveying & Mapping
- Frank and Joy Death
- Louise Devine
- Margaret Donelley
- Rosa Durando
- Carl Edwards
- Mary Nye Egley
- Marsha Fishbane
- Sherrie Frieling
- Marjorie Gelber
- David Gillings
- Dorsa Gelinas
- Andrew Gordon
- Nina Griswold
- Winston Guest
- Walter Hackenjos
- Lawrence and Sharon Hess
- Judith Hill
- Dorothy Hudson
- Mary Hulitar
- Gloria Hunter
- Mary Irving
- Lois Klein
- Susan Korzenewski
- Creighton & Natalie Lederer
- Patricia Leef
- William Mannino
- Cathleen Cox McFarlane
- Chris McVoy
- William Motsch, Jr.
- Esther M. Nitto
- Judith Norton
- Alan Parmalee
- Richard and Mary Pase
- Hilda Percy
- Kimberly Pierce
- Cynthia Plockelman
- Joseph Prusa
- Victoria Putnam
- Sheila Reiss
- J. Perry Ruddick
- Samuel Saunders
- Leah Schad
- Thomas Sheehan
- Lesly Smith
- Joanne Snyder
- Susan Snyder
- Edna Stephens
- Nancy Stroud
- Linda Sturdy
- Grace Tate
- Paula Telft
- Trudi Foster Interiors
- Alan Wagner
- Mark Wasylkiw
- Margaret Westervelt
- Paton White
- Ted and Trudy Winsberg
- Alice Young
- Judith Zaslow

**Palm Beach Gallery Event to Feature Bird Sculptures**

The Society of the Four Arts will unveil its second exhibition of the 2006-2007 season on February 17, 2007. The exhibit, entitled “The Brilliance of Birds: The Sculpture of Grainger McKoy” will feature highly detailed sculptures of several species of birds. The exhibition features 41 sculptures representing individual birds (often in their natural habitat), flocks of birds in flight, and individual feathers in monolithic detail. To help illustrate the artistic process, numerous sketches and works in progress are included. In recent years McKoy has developed a line of table-top items and fine jewelry in precious metals. A selection of his most recent pieces will also be on display.

The exhibition will run from February 17 until April 14, 2007 at The Society of the Four Arts in Palm Beach. For additional information, contact the gallery at (561) 655-7226.
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 Aubon Society of the Everglades. Your membership will include subscriptions to AUDUBON magazine and the EVERGLADE KITE.

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Make check payable to: National Audubon Society
and send to:
  Membership Chair
  Audubon Society of the Everglades
  PO Box 16914
  West Palm Beach, FL 33416-6914

The Audubon Society of the Everglades General Meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at Howard Park Community Center in West Palm Beach. The phone number for the Community Center is (561) 835-7055. The public is welcome to attend.

Reminder: Deadline for submissions for the March 2007 issue is February 10th

Audubon Society of the Everglades
PO Box 16914
West Palm Beach, FL
33416-6914

Dated Material -- DO NOT DELAY

The Everglade Kite is a monthly publication of the Audubon Society of the Everglades, P.O. Box 16914, West Palm Beach, Florida, 33416-6914. Also available on the web: www.auduboneverglades.org.
Members: Advertise in the Kite. 3 lines for $10. Contact newsletter@auduboneverglades.org