



# EVERGLADE KITE

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

Serving Palm Beach County, Florida

Volume 50, Number 8

May/June 2010

## CALENDAR

**Saturday, May 1, 8:00 a.m.**

Spanish River Park. Leader:  
Ben Kolstad

**Saturday, May 1, 7:00 a.m.**

Corbett—Buggy Ride, Leader:  
Michael Baranski, Coordinator  
Linda (561) 742-7791

**Saturday, May 8** Spring  
Migration. Contact Cynthia  
Plockelman for details. 561-  
585-1278

**Tuesday, May 4, 2010, 7:30 p.m.**

**Presentation: "CERP update"**

Our May meeting will feature an update on the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) from the South Florida Water Management District.

**Tuesday, June 1, 2010, 7:30 p.m.**

**Presentation: "Bird Conservation"**

Dr. Richard Raid, of the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, will speak to us about bird conservation. Dr. Raid is currently a Professor of Plant Pathology at the Everglades Research and Education Center in Belle Glade

Please join us at the Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, 6301 W. Summit Blvd., in West Palm Beach. Doors open at 7:00.

## President's Column

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for allowing me to continue on as your President for another two years. I consider this an honor and privilege to be President. With so much support from the board and all of you, this job is still fun and exciting.

At 7:15 a.m. as I made myself go on a 5 mile bike ride, I listened to the early morning noises. There was a woodpecker drumming, fish crows calling, blue jays scolding, and of course the songs of the cardinal and mockingbird. I even heard a red-winged blackbird calling. (I never realized they hung out by the intracoastal; I have so much to learn!) I was really excited to ride pass a wood stork (first one I've seen in this area). As I contemplated what to share with you in this space, I realized some of the most important conservation issues right now are oil drilling and EPA water standards.

Our conservation meeting is the first Monday of the Month at the Lantana County Library at 1:00 p.m. Our discussion in April was about how important it is to inform all of you about the constant changes taking place in our laws and government. The Obama Administration has made a proposal to

allow drilling in a larger area of the eastern Gulf, as well as allow seismic exploration for oil and gas off of Florida's Atlantic Coast.

This is really bad news for Florida. The waters off of Georgia and Northeast Florida are the calving grounds of highly endangered North Atlantic Right Whales, not to mention all the other endangered fish, animals, birds and coral reefs that are at risk. Please call or write a letter to your Federal Legislatures and President Obama letting them know that oil drilling is not an option in Florida. Another important item needing your help is the new EPA water standards that are being proposed to help clean up lakes, flowing waters, and safer drinking water. You will find the information on who to contact in this newsletter. Please keep this copy of the *Kite* so that you have the information to help us on other important issues. You can make a difference!

Please feel free to contact me with any new ideas or changes you would like to see in this upcoming year. We will be meeting soon to plan our new year. Call me at 561-742-7791 or hlindaase@aol.com.

## **The Everglade Kite**

*is the newsletter of the Audubon Society of the Everglades, published 10 times a year.*

### **President**

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### **1st Vice President**

Cynthia Plockelman 585-1278

### **2nd Vice President**

Paton White 818-7574

### **Secretary**

Marcella Munson 367-7689

### **Treasurer**

Janet Schreiber 689-2530

### **Field Trips**

Claudine Laabs 655-9779

### **Bird ID, Library**

Gloria Hunter 585-7714

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ben@kolstad.com

### **ASE on the Internet**

<http://www.auduboneverglades.org>

*Audubon Society of the Everglades, incorporated in 1966, serves communities in Palm Beach County. Our purpose is to promote the conservation of wildlife and the natural environment and to advance human understanding of our place in the total ecological system.*

## **Birds of the Month:**

**May: Mottled Duck**

**June: Mourning Dove**

The birds of the month for May and June are two Florida natives we should all be familiar with: Mottled Duck and Mourning Dove. Bring your pictures and find out more about these birds at our meetings!

## **Gloria Hunter**

For over fifty years Gloria Hunter has been an active ASE member and birder extraordinaire. She has recently resigned as chair of the Library Committee, overseeing the AUDUBON COLLECTION initiated by ASE in 1980 with funding from the Merrill Foundation. This Ornithological collection, considered one of the best in the southeast, is housed at the main Palm Beach County library branch on Summit Blvd. Gloria has selected books and maintained the collection to keep it current, working with the library staff as a volunteer. Serving as a long time board member, Gloria has chaired field trips and membership committees and coordinated the Christmas Bird Count.

No doubt Gloria has led more birding field trips than anyone in ASE! Her love of native plants and birds has been imparted to many. Her vast knowledge and enthusiasm have been a great resource to our organization and members. She has shared her interests by leading walks and fielding the many calls ASE receives about birds. When you are out birding just remember what Gloria has told us, "Don't point at the birds, you will scare them away!"

## **Pat Welch**

Pat Welch, retired Executive Director of FAU/Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, was honored at ASE's annual meeting for her many contributions to environmental education in Palm Beach County. Joining Pine Jog staff in 1987 as an instructor, she soon became director. Under her guidance Pine Jog flourished as it provided students and adults an outdoor classroom for environmental experiences, developed using best practices tied to Florida Educational Standards. Pat has managed regional projects for Florida Dept. of Education, received national and state awards and served in leadership positions on many community boards.

Her greatest accomplishment has been staying true to her dream of having a school actually integrate environmental education into the elementary curriculum. And this happened when FAU/Pine Jog leased land for a school to the PBC School District in exchange for a new Pine Jog facility, in effect becoming a learning laboratory for both, where facilities and staffs enrich and make relevant the educational experience.

Audubon has had a long term relationship with Pine Jog as Audubon of Florida managed the property from 1960-1970. ASE has been involved with Pine Jog and their educational programs since 1980. Most recently Pat was the creative force in guiding ASE's efforts to win the \$15,000 Audubon grant which funded the demonstration native plant landscape installed at Pine Jog.

## **Moved Recently?**

If you have moved and no longer wish to receive this newsletter please contact Linda by email (hlinda@aol.com) or phone (561-742-7791). If you would rather receive this newsletter via email instead of regular mail contact Ben Kolstad, ben@kolstad.com. Thanks for helping us reduce our environmental impact and our printing/postage costs.

## Conservation: Florida's Oceans, Rivers, and Lakes

We need your help! This is an issue of concern to all Florida residents:

Please contact your Federal Legislators to voice objection to **off shore drilling along Florida's coast**. There are many reasons to voice your objection to off shore drilling. Below are just a few of them:

The impact of a potential oil spill and the disturbance on animals and plants found in or near coastal waters such as nesting shorebirds, sea turtles, fish and fish nurseries, and coral reefs (many of which are endangered or threatened) would be a disaster.

There is a grave risk to the economy of Florida should such an oil spill occur. There would be a major loss of tourism in diving, snorkeling, commercial and recreational fishing, and most of all the beaches. We can not forget the possibility of oil leaks caused by hurricanes. Florida is a major migratory bird flyway with stopover all along our coasts.

### Executive Branch

President Obama

The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW,  
Washington, DC 20500

Phone: 202-456-1111, Fax: 202-456-2461, email: president@whitehouse.gov

### U.S. Congress

U.S. REP. TOM ROONEY, DISTRICT 16

335 SE Ocean Blvd. Stuart, FL 34994, 772-288-4668

U.S. REP. VACANT DISTRICT 19

2500 N. Military Trl, Ste 490, Boca Raton, FL 33431, 561-

732-4000

U.S. REP. RON KLEIN, DISTRICT 22

1900 Glades Road, Suite #260, Boca Raton, FL 33431  
561-544-6910

U.S. REP. ALCEE HASTINGS, DISTRICT 23

1755 E. Tiffany Drive, Mangonia Park, FL 33407  
561-881-9618

### U.S. Senate

U.S. SEN. GEORGE LEMIEUX, 7711 N. Military Trail, Palm  
Beach Gardens, FL 33410, 561-842-8300

U.S. SEN. BILL NELSON, 500 S. Australian Avenue, Suite  
#125 West Palm Beach, FL 33401, 561-514-0189

### Federal EPA Water Standards for Florida's Lakes and Flowing Waters

Please contact EPA to voice support for implementation of the new water standards EPA has proposed to help clean up Florida's lakes and flowing waters. These standards are more stringent than currently in force in the state. There is objection to the proposed standards coming from a variety of state, agricultural, and industrial organizations.

Email: ow-docket@epa.gov Address: Water Docket U.  
S. Environmental Protection Agency ATTN:Docket #EPA-HQ-  
OW-2009 1301 Constitution Ave. NW Washington,  
D. C. 20004

Thank you for your help! You can make a difference. Please keep a copy of this kite handy so you can refer to the above information on other important issues.

### ASE Environmental Award

U. S. Congressman Alcee Hastings, Florida District 23, was recognized at the recent annual meeting as ASE's Environmental Award winner for his consistent and long-time championing of environmental issues. Most recently he voiced opposition to oil drilling off Florida's coast in recognition of the importance of clean water and beaches to Florida's \$65 billion tourism and fishing industries. He advocates for sustainable, clean and renewable energy. He has also been actively involved with drafting, enacting and securing funding for Everglades restoration (CERP). As he says on his website, "I will always fight for the future of our environment. The health, safety, and well-being of America's children are depending on it."



Kirsten Munson

### Invasive Vine Task Force

Do you have air potato vine or lygodium, also known as old world climbing fern, on your property? These are invasive vines which threaten to take over native ecosystems. Jim Stecki of Community Tree Service has advised ASE that Palm Beach County Environmental Resources Management has a Strike Force which will treat these vines on public and private properties with no cost to you. Visit ERM's website, [www.co.palm-beach.fl.us/erm](http://www.co.palm-beach.fl.us/erm) (permitting and regulation tab) or call 233-2400 to find out more information and download the required form.

### Conservation Meeting, Lantana County Library Monday, May 3, 2010, 1:00 PM

Audubon Society of the Everglades has started a monthly conservation meeting to discuss upcoming events and important public meetings being held within our local area. This is a one-hour informal discussion about upcoming issues so that we can be better informed.

The meeting is held at the county library in Lantana, 4020 Lantana Rd, Lake Worth. Come join the discussion! Call Linda at 561-742-7791 for more information.

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

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Permit 46  
West Palm Beach, Florida

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The *Everglade Kite* is published 10 times a year by Audubon Society of the Everglades, P.O. Box 16914, West Palm Beach, Florida, 33416-6914. Also available on the web: [www.auduboneverglades.org](http://www.auduboneverglades.org).

AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES IS A 501(C)3 ORGANIZATION. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE OF FLORIDA. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

**Articles NEEDED! Send to [ben@kolstad.com](mailto:ben@kolstad.com) by the 10th of the month.**

### Join Audubon Society of the Everglades

There are now two ways to join ASE: Chapter-only membership, and membership through the National Audubon Society.

#### Chapter-Only Membership

When you become a member of the Audubon Society of the Everglades by using the form at right, all of your membership fees are put to use supporting **local** projects: Everglades Day; Education Programs such as model schools and field trips; Scholarships; and Conservation activities. Audubon Society of the Everglades members also receive 10 issues of the *Everglade Kite* newsletter.

#### National Audubon Society Membership

When you join ASE through the National Audubon Society, you also receive 6 issues of *Audubon Magazine*, and membership in Audubon of Florida. For details, visit [www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org). To join the National Society, send your information as above, but make your check out to **National Audubon Society**. NOTE: The annual fee is \$20 for regular NAS membership. In either case, send your check, payable to ASE (\$15/\$10) or NAS (\$20) as appropriate, along with this form to

Membership, Audubon Society of the Everglades  
P.O. Box 16914  
West Palm Beach, FL 33416-6914

### Audubon Society of the Everglades (ASE)

YES! I want to become a **chapter-only member** of ASE. Enclosed is my check made payable to Audubon Society of the Everglades for:

Regular \$15       Senior (62+)/Student \$10

I would like to save ASE postage and printing costs; please send my *Kite* via email

I would like to donate an additional

\$20  \$50  \$100  \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer for:

- Education  
 Conservation  
 Everglades Day  
 Fundraising  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

C9ZE000Z

Audubon Society of the Everglades general meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. (refreshments at 7) at FAU Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, located on Summit Blvd, near the intersection of Summit and Jog, in West Palm Beach. The public is welcome to attend.