



EVERGLADE KITE

AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

VOLUME 18, No. 7

Ruth Trumpower, Editor

APRIL 1978

ANNUAL MEETING TO FEATURE R. TILLIS

An expert in the field of environmental education, C. Richard Tillis, will be the speaker for the Audubon Society of the Everglades at its annual meeting on April 4.

A dinner meeting has again been planned for ASE members and guests, to be held at the Holiday Inn of Palm Beach Gardens (on PGA Blvd. near end of I-95). Those who do not want to attend the dinner, but wish to hear the speaker and attend Annual Meeting may do so by arriving at 8 p.m.

The evening's schedule starts at 6:30 p.m. with a social hour and cash bar, dinner at 7 p.m., guest speaker at 8 p.m. and Annual Meeting and Elections at 8:30 p.m.

Mr. Tillis, former director of Pine Jog and still one of its Board members, is now director of the Office of Environmental Education for Florida's Department of Education. He was to have been our February speaker, but had to cancel because of illness. Please refer to the Feb. Kite for more information about his career in environmental education.

At time of going to press, there still were not many reservations in for the dinner. If attendance is below that needed for the Annual Meeting, the dinner may be cancelled

and the meeting revert to its usual place at the First Federal Savings & Loan Association's Administrative Center, 2601 Tenth Avenue North, Lake Worth, at 7:30 p.m.

If a change is made, those with reservations will be called. Other members are urged to watch their newspapers for notice of change, or call any officer after March 29 if in doubt.

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 7:30 a.m. - Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, Marsh parking lot, Leader will be William Channel.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29 - Spring Bird Count and Picnic. Everyone welcome to picnic following the count, meet at John Prince Park - picnic tables west of Park Ranger buildings. If entering park from Congress along road bordering golf range, turn right at first bridge over canal, then right again to picnic area. The time - 5:30 p.m. Bring your own goodies to eat.

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The March 5th trip to see the evening fly-in of birds to Fisherman's Island was a great success. The leader was William Channel, a very knowledgeable and experienced field

guide. Eighty persons attended the walk in spite of a chill wind across the lake.

The island trees were filled with hundreds of birds - white ibis, great blue herons, great egrets and brown pelicans. Black skimmers, ruddy turnstones, royal terns, cormorants, and ring-billed and laughing gulls occupied the island's sand strips. And one lone oyster catcher was observed by some. (Atha Green)

CONSERVATION NEWS

Conservation Committee representatives appeared at a hearing in the Tequesta Town Hall, called by the DNR on the use of power boats on the Loxahatchee River in Jonathan Dickinson State Park.

Some power boats have become a nuisance and a menace to people using canoes and rowboats and park personnel do not have time to do a constant police job, particularly on weekends. Also, because of wake action, the shore is becoming badly eroded in places.

The committee would like to see the ban on power boats above the public docks restored. This would leave the upper area of the river undisturbed for canoers, etc. and protect the river banks. There were strong protests to this ban, but the number of power boaters is much lower than the number of canoers. Perhaps one weekend a month could be reserved for power boaters.

There is to be a public hearing on the Sebastian Inlet State Park in the Melbourne Town Hall at 7 p.m. on April 13.

Since many of our members are familiar with this park and go there often for birding, we have become involved in protesting certain dredge and fill operations proposed within the park. Auduboners of Cocoa, Rockledge and Pelican Island, as well as other conservationists, are joining in these protests. Anyone able to attend such hearings is urged to call me, 582-5900. (Doris Henriquez)

KITE STRINGS

HELP WANTED - ASE needs a secretary. If interested, please contact any Board member.

From Saul Rimberg, in case you missed this item elsewhere - Revised edition of WHERE TO FIND BIRDS IN FLORIDA has just been published by FAS. It supplies current information on S. Florida and Grand Bahama Island, Interior Florida, East Coast, and West Coast. Cost is \$2.00 prepaid from Florida Audubon Society, P.O. Drawer 7, Maitland, Fl. 32751.

FOR SALE: Nikon 7 x 35 Field Glasses with case, mint condition, special light weight. Call Louis Ortner, 686-1366, in evening.

The ASE exhibit at Lake Worth's Spring Festival March 10-11 distributed lots of brochures and volunteers talked to many of the thousands who passed by. Many thanks to Eileen Thompson, Sara Schenck, Dorothy Winkfield and Elizabeth Dana who helped staff the booth.

From Hank McCall - Late one afternoon, while pushing through dense cocoplum shading a canal bank, I heard a great splashing. Dropping on my belly to crawl like a reptile, I soon saw three otters playing in the water. Their game was otter tag, namely bite the other otter's tail. Around and around, up and down, splashing and grunting, they rode their watery merry-go-round. Then all popped up on the bank and lay motionless side by side looking like big sausages. Then one slapped the other with its tail and away went the circus again. After fifteen minutes, mama came along and they all moved off down the canal. Want to know where to look? Call Hank McCall, 585-2026.

Attention Grandparents - Young grandchildren (with slightly overwhelming energies) visiting you for some time this summer? Pine Jog offers half-day, week-long nature camp sessions starting June 26 for 5th and 6th graders, July 3 - 4th grade, July 10 - 3rd grade, July 17 - 2nd grade, July 24 - 1st grade. Call Pine Jog, 686-6600, for details and fees.

HIGHLIGHTS OF ASE'S PAST YEAR

Some of the year's end reports by committee chairmen are given below. Others will be published in the May issue of the Kite.

PROGRAMS

Our program year began with former Undersecretary of the Interior Nathaniel P. Reed as guest speaker. Other guests during the year were Buck Christian, chief meteorologist at the West Palm Beach Weather Bureau; Major Louis Gainey, Regional Manager, Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission; Jerry Cutlip, Superintendent, Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary; former astronaut Al Worden; Colonel Donald Wisdom, District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville; Dr. Julia Morton, Botanist from the University of Miami; Chris Belden, Game & Fresh Water Fish Panther Project, Gainesville Office, and Mr. C. Richard Tillis, Director of Environmental Education for the State of Florida. In addition, several programs were films dealing with endangered species.

As in the past, various members of the Society were called upon to give programs at local schools and civic organizations.

Leah Schad, Program Director

NATURE TRAIL

The Nature Trail Guided Tours have been held Saturday afternoons at 3 o'clock and will continue until the last Saturday in April. Since January there have been a fair number of people attending, with an increase in participants after news releases by Publicity Chairman Hank McCall. Many thanks to Alice Stearns for her inspiration and guidance in scheduling the leaders. The Palm Beach-Broward Soil & Water Conservation District Auxiliary, better known to ASE as Friends of the Custard Apple Trail, can still us help on Thursday mornings with weeding, planting, etc. along the trail and in the native plants area.

Louise Morgan, Co-ordinator

MEMBERSHIP

As of January 31, 1978, Everglades Audubon had 944 members on its rolls. This is an increase of 60 members over January, 1977. We have had 203 new members in the past year. On checking our files, I find that we have 21 Life Members. A Life Member has contributed \$500.00 or more to National Audubon Society.

Gloria Hunter, Membership Chairman

EVERGLADE KITE

Interesting and informative articles from a number of contributors helped keep the Kite's twelve monthly issues filled again this past year. My thanks to Saul Rimberg, Tom McElroy, Alice Stearns, Marge Eaton, Hank McCall, Venila Van Voorthuyzen, Ann Ayers, Gloria Hunter, J.Y. Arnold, Jr., and H.P. Langridge for their contributions. Also to Leah Schad, Atha Green and Mike Burkhardt for keeping us posted on programs, trips and ASE affairs.

We tried using a photograph in a recent issue and it came out very well. Glossy black and white photos are best, but sharp colored ones will work. So regular-sized photos of interest to ASE will be welcomed, either along with an article or just with a caption. Hopefully our travelers will continue to contribute; can use items in summer if other issues too full.

Ruth Trumpower, Editor

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

READ AND HEED -

Atlantis: T. Lundeen

Jupiter: Louis J. Parker

Lake Park: M.J. Fox, R.A. Maddox

Lake Worth: L.J. Bensoussan, Barney
E. Humphrey

Lantana: Mike Cunningham

North Palm Beach: Jack H. Cook, David
J. Homey, Robert P. Russell, Jr.,
Mrs. Melvin B. Twitty

Palm Beach: Joe R. Kern

Palm Beach Gardens: Frank Lawlor

Riviera Beach: Linda T. Kobert

Singer Island: Mary M.B. Bowman

Tequesta: David J. Balongue, Chester
Crain, G.H. Dovenhuehle

West Palm Beach: John A. Abrams,
Edwin V. Goldberg, Mrs. Jon A.
Lind, George H. Marks, G.N. Spears,
Mr. & Mrs. E.J. Wojtach

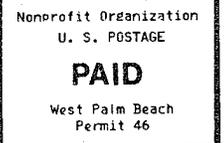
the green pages in your FLORIDA
NATURALIST and voice your opinions
to the appropriate agencies.

For instance - Cross Florida
Barge proponents are still trying to
keep canal project alive by delaying
restoration of already damaged areas
such as Oklawaha River.

For instance - If you live in
the coastal area, you should be in-
terested in a strong Coastal Manage-
ment Plan to protect your quality of
life and that of future generations.

And on the national front, as
reported in the AUDUBON LEADER - NAS
and 24 other major conservationist
organizations have joined in the
Coalition for Water Project Review,
have drawn up a list of 20 projects
which "represent the worst abuses" of
the nation's water resource develop-
ment program, and have asked President
Carter to halt them. Coalition also
urges reforms that emphasize water
management and conservation as major
tools to insure adequate supplies.
Audubon members can help this im-
portant campaign by urging President
Carter to support the coalition's
proposed reforms.

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