



### CORKSCREW SWAMP SANCTUARY

On Tuesday, December 5th, the Audubon Society of the Everglades will have Jerry Cutlip, Superintendent of Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, as its guest speaker.

Mr. Cutlip began his career with the Audubon Society in 1969 when he became the Warden-Naturalist at the De Pienefen Sanctuary in New Hampshire. In 1972 he was transferred as Resident Naturalist to Corkscrew Swamp. Ten months later he was designated as the Sanctuary's superintendent.

Although Mr. Cutlip is busy with his duties in managing the Sanctuary and its many programs and in conducting field trips, he finds time to give counsel to local conservation organizations.

Jerry Cutlip helped in planning the Francis Biedler Forest Sanctuary boardwalk and in the planning and study of the Clay Marsh Nature Center.

Be sure to join us for the Society's program and meeting on Tuesday, December 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the West Palm Beach Garden Club Center, Dreher Trail North, using the entrance north off Summit Blvd. at the stoplight just east of the Zoo. Bring your friends. (Mary Nye)

### FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, December 9, 7:30 a.m. - Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge. Meet at Marsh Parking Lot.

SATURDAY, December 16 - Christmas Bird Count. See below.

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### CHRISTMAS COUNT

Teams contact team leaders for this all-day count.

Compilation dinner at Bonanza Sirloin Pit, Palm Springs, 6:30 p.m. Everybody welcome. Buy your dinner on first floor and bring up to the second floor tally room.

Any questions? Contact Tom McElroy, 585-6195.

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### FALL COUNT SUMMARY

Despite rain, the West Palm Beach Fall Bird Count tallied 128 species, two species short of our all-time high. Many hours by many observers creates solid coverage that results in a sound count despite inclement weather.

First sightings for our fall count were Chimney Swift - 1 (Paul

Sykes), Marsh Wrens - 2 (Sykes and Ann Ayers), and Wilson Warbler - 1 (Sykes). A good hawk movement was evident, with 29 Sharp-shinned, 3 Coopers, 17 Red-shouldered, 4 Merlin, and 1 Peregrine; but, amazingly, not a single vulture was spotted on this rainy day by the 37 observers.

(H. Langridge)

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Our Chapter extends sincere sympathy to former Board member Maggie McCarraher on the recent death of her husband Dewey.

We have been advised by Marjorie Carr, president of Florida Defenders of the Environment and an FAS Board member, that the Cross Florida Barge Canal (CFBC) de-authorization battle begins again in January. She advises that Senators Chiles and Stone and Congressmen Young, Rogers and Fascell were most supportive, and should be thanked for their efforts. We have been assured that Senators Chiles and Stone will re-introduce the bill and quick passage is expected. In the House, the CFBC de-authorization bill will be introduced separately or as part of an omnibus de-authorization bill that will include other notorious projects that need axing. We need to write our Congressmen asking that they co-sponsor the CFBC de-authorization bill. (Please advise me if you write such letters.)

FAS is sponsoring several manatee awareness workshops: Jan. 13 at Fort Myers, Jan. 20 at Blue Springs, Jan. 27 at Ft. Lauderdale. Anyone interested should contact me.

Peter Quincy, former president of Tropical Audubon in Miami, is the new Chapter Liaison Officer for FAS.

A workshop on permitting within the Loxahatchee Slough will be held Jan. 15 at the PGA Holiday Inn. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is coordinating, with input from ASE and Florida Wildlife Federation.

ASE, along with other Southeast Fla. Audubon Chapters, has gone on record against any commercialization of alligator hides.

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#### SINGER ISLAND TRIP

On November 10th a group of 40 birders met at Phil Foster Park. While waiting for all to assemble, some saw a common loon in flight. Led by our capable leaders Ann Ayers and Marge Eaton, we drove to Air Force Beach. Waiting for the low tide, we trudged through rain-soaked grass and saw hundreds of fiddler crabs scurrying about as we approached the brackish water.

Among the 30 species of birds sighted were most of the herons, ibis and egrets. Also seen were a clapper rail, willet, Caspian tern, osprey and prairie warbler. Despite the heat and humidity, everybody enjoyed the morning's activities. (Saul Rimberg)

#### BIRDING - A FIELD EXPERIENCE

Ann Ayers will again be teaching this field course in bird identification which begins at 9 a.m. on Friday, January 12, at Pine Jog Environmental Sciences Center.

The course will consist of two illustrated lectures and four field trips. The class is limited in size, so send your check for \$10 to Pine Jog, 6301 Summit Blvd., W.P.B. 33406, to reserve a space.

#### Everglades Bus Trip

Another Pine Jog offering this season will be a bus trip to Everglades National Park on Wednesday, January 24.

The bus will leave Pine Jog (address above) at 7 a.m. and will return around 6 p.m. Cold drinks will be provided, but you will need to bring your own lunch. It will be a leisurely trip, but you will need walking shoes.

Pre-registration of \$15 is required by January 12 and will not be refunded unless the trip is cancelled. Call 686-6600 if you have any questions about either of these Pine Jog activities. (Ann Ayers)

## PSITTACIDAE OF AUSTRALIA

Australia has some 800 species of birds, and we tried to see all of them. The parrots are most conspicuous. This is because they travel in gangs, they are beautifully colored, and they are noisy. Of the 52 species of parrots, only two, ground parrots, are bashful.

Some species, such as the galah, are so common and bold that the Australian has overlooked its striking gray and pink sophisticated coloration and uses the word as slang for 'fool.'

Parrots have adapted well to civilization. In fact, the rainbow lorikeet roosts at night along the trees of the main street in downtown Cairns. They literally cover these trees like leaves. Lorikeets are fast flyers and have a specialized brush tongue to feed on nectar.

The crimson rosella is quite intelligent and individuals become tame. At O'Reilly's Guest House, near Brisbane, the rosellas would hop upon our window sill at dawn and tap on the glass for a morning biscuit. Their nests are made in cavities of trees and termite mounds.

The cockatoos are large, powerful birds that feed in white flocks in pastures and newly-sown fields. At dinner a young wheat farmer in Dimboola told us how he lost crops to the wary cockatoo. They post sentinels and, when alarmed, the flock takes off and lands in a big dry red-gum tree.

This farmer tired of feeding them, so he covered that red-gum tree from top to bottom with bird lime. Next day when the cockatoos landed on it, he ran down with his shotgun. Just as he was about to fire, they took off and tore that tree up by the roots. The last the farmer saw of the tree it was about a half mile up, making south. (Hank McCall)

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WE USE RECYCLED PAPER. DO YOU?

## KITE STRINGS

ASE has received brochures on the 1979 Audubon Ecology Camps and Workshop to be held during July and August in Maine, Wisconsin, Wyoming and Connecticut. Ye Ed. will bring them to the December meeting for anyone interested in same.

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And you may be missing some local opportunities. Check with the Science Museum, 4801 Dreher Trail North, W.P.B. 33405, and Pine Jog Environmental Sciences Center (address in P. 2 story) for information on lectures and courses scheduled by each of them. Also check Palm Beach County Public Library, 3650 Summit Blvd., W.P.B. 33406, for its film series schedule, which sometimes has nature films.

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Don't forget Florida Audubon's membership drive, which lasts until January 15. October's Florida NATURALIST tells about the contest and its prizes. Interest your friends in joining Audubon and give a membership for Christmas.

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The AUDUBON LEADER notes that conservationists are asking President Carter to stand firm on interim protection of the Alaska wilds. Because an Alaska public interest lands bill never reached the Senate for a vote, the present barrier to exploitation and development of the Alaskan wilderness will come down on December 18th. The Alaska Coalition, of which NAS is a leader, favors use of the Antiquities Act of 1906 to protect these national interest lands until the new Congress can pass the bill next year.

Write President Carter (White House, Washington, D.C. 20500) in support of interim protection by the Antiquities Act. Send copies to your legislators and the two Cabinet members responsible for the lands - Cecil D. Andrus, Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240, and Bob S. Bergland, Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

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WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Boca Raton: Alistair D. Heinly

Jupiter: James R. Roberts

Lake Worth: Larry W. Horning, Miss  
Shari Keefer

Lantana: Thomas Hayes

North Palm Beach: John Walker Gallery

Tequesta: Mrs. and Mrs. Ernest N.  
Stephens

West Palm Beach: L. Schulmeister, Mr.  
and Mrs. Seymour, Mrs. K. Skinner,  
Ann E. Stewart, E. H. Tyler

Out-of-State: Mrs. Meredith J.  
Getly, New York; Wilhelm Lewicki,  
West Germany

CHANGE OF ADDRESS REMINDER

If you will send me a postcard giving me your change of address at the same time you advise National Audubon of such change, it will save you as much as three months time lag in receiving your KITE. Send to:

Ms. Cecil Kilmer  
Lot 155, 2738 N. Military Trail  
West Palm Beach, Fl. 33409

EVERGLADE KITE  
P. O. Box 6762  
West Palm Beach, Fl. 33405

Palm Beach County Library System  
West Palm Beach, Florida

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PALM BEACH CO. LIBRARY SYSTEM  
3650 SUMMIT BLVD.  
W. PALM BEACH, FL. 33406

PRESIDENT'S DESK (cont'd.)

Latters from individuals are needed in support of sanctuary status for Looe Key Reef, one of the last living coral reefs on the east coast. Correspondence in support of the Looe Key Marine Sanctuary designation should be sent to Harriet Stewart, Director, NOAA, 75 Virginia Beach Dr., Virginia Key, Miami.

In view of the Florida Supreme Court ruling striking down the 1972 Environmental Land & Water Management Act, we are urged to write our State lawmakers urging them to support the re-establishment of special protection to Green Swamp and the Florida Keys - if the Governor calls the legislature into special session.

ASE took a stand in general support of the county's revised Land Use Plan, with the recommendation that a buffer zone be reinstated between the Loxahatchee Refuge and adjacent agricultural areas. We feel the proposed lower density is a step in the right direction, but would support an even lower figure. (Leah Schad)

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Check ASE's Sales Table at the December meeting. It has some nice items for Christmas gifts.

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