



EXPERT ON FLORIDA LANDSCAPING FEATURED

Gene Joyner, Urban Horticulturist for Palm Beach County, will be the guest speaker at the monthly meeting of the Audubon Society of the Everglades on Tuesday, May 1, at 7:30 p.m.

SPECIAL NOTICE: The May meeting will be held at the Science Museum & Planetarium on Dreher Park Trail North, right across the street from the Garden Club where ASE usually meets.

After his talk on "Trees and Shrubs for Florida Landscaping," Mr. Joyner will welcome questions from the audience concerning problems which beset gardeners not used to dealing with the growing conditions indigenous to South Florida.

Mr. Joyner, who has been with the county for seven years, is a graduate of the University of Florida and has a degree in Botany and Plant Sciences. Prior to joining the county staff at the Agricultural Office in the Mounts Building, he worked for five years at a large Florida nursery.

The owner of over two acres of land called "Unbelievable Acres," he has created botanical gardens which are unbelievably beautiful and interesting. These may be visited by groups on Saturdays or Sundays, but only by prior arrangements with Mr. Joyner.

DON'T FORGET - The May 1st ASE meeting will be held at the Science Museum. Bring your gardening friends. (Sy Magnus, Program Chmn.)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

The Florida Audubon Society is facing a \$40,000 deficit at the end of its current fiscal year. Reactions to this possibly range from "If they'd stay within their budget, this wouldn't happen" to "What can be done to help avoid such a crisis?"

Many chapters are organizing fund-raising activities and donating all or 50% of the proceeds to Florida Audubon. Suggestions for money-making events were made at the March FAS Board meeting. They included canoe-a-thons, charity balls, guided tours to Big Cypress, Everglades, etc; disco-thons and walk-a-thons, although not limited to these. We may have an idea or two of our own.

It is interesting to note that the chapters who have already aided FAS are those who must also raise almost every cent of their own operating budgets. I dare say that Audubon Society of the Everglades is one of the more affluent chapters in the state. It's a comfortable feeling, to be sure. But it also tends to make us passive when it comes to

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helping other projects.

True, FAS could cut programs and/or staff - and proposed plans to do just that will be outlined at the May 12 meeting in Orlando (open to anyone who wishes to attend). Do we want to stop lobbying efforts for good environmental laws? Or perhaps we should cut out educational programs. Maybe we'd be better off letting injured birds of prey die instead of nursing them back to health and releasing them. We can stop fighting for cleaner air standards, higher water quality and prevention of oil spills. It all spells "Quality of Life" - and we all want the best for ourselves, our families and our friends.

We are not independent! When we ask for help from FAS, they answer our call. Cooperative efforts are much more productive than (excuse the pun) 'winging' it alone.

It seems, therefore, that we can do something to help offset the impending financial crisis. We can choose one of the ideas already set forth or come up with something entirely different. Perhaps a barbecue, art show, benefit film, or concert. Suggestions are welcomed.

If none of these things appeal to you, everyone who receives this newsletter could send a \$2.00 tax deductible check made payable to Audubon Society of the Everglades and marked "FAS." We would then forward a chapter check for the total amount donated.

One advantage of holding a fundraising event is involving non-members who can be educated to the fact that we are committed to a "Quality of Life" which includes birds, not just "for the birds."

What is your choice?
(Leah Schad)

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REMEMBER - NEXT MEETING
AT THE SCIENCE MUSEUM

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FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 8 a.m., Lake Trail, Palm Beach. Meet at Poinciana Chapel parking lot, Coconut Row, just east of Flagler Museum. This walk will be at the height of the spring migration. We will also observe the native and exotic plants of the area. Hunter, Eaton, and Ayers, leaders.

SUNDAY, MAY 13, 6 p.m., Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge. Meet at the dike parking lot for this Sunset Walk, the last field trip of the season.

The next monthly pelagic birding trip out of Ft. Pierce is on Sunday, May 13. The boat leaves the Fort Pierce Marina at 7:30 a.m. For reservation, send check for \$20.00 to Bill Dowling, 203 Tumblin Kling Rd., Ft. Pierce 33450. For more information, call Hunter, 585-7714.

BEST HIKE IN THE WORLD

Here in Palm Beach County we have a superb hike which is world class for scenic vistas and sighting of wildlife. This walk, flat as it is, need not bow to any trails of the Grand Tetons, New Zealand's Milford Track, or Switzerland's Grindelwald. Because we walk across infinity, the day's theme is flatness and the far horizon. Our route goes around the West Palm Beach Water Catchment Area.

The jaunt starts at Haverhill Road on the south bank of the water canal. Just go west and follow the dike around the area for 23 miles and you finish where you began.

As you walk, be alert for animal tracks, birds, and a variety of wild blooming plants. Once you turn south, the next four miles yield views of saw grass prairies that stretch seemingly forever. Once plentiful, these are today the rare, beautiful Florida Savannahs.

Overhead you see ibis, herons, turkey vultures, and many hawks. When the osprey hovers above, crying his shrill peeps, keep one eye on the

ground because even as the osprey calls, there at your feet is a 56" rattlesnake with a head as big as a pancake. Tracks of racoons, possum, and armadillo cover the trail.

Eventually you join Lake Park Road at Ed Froelich's Alligator Ranch. Stop by and see Edwin and his 1000 reptile children. Let them lick your tired feet. There is nothing as soothing as alligator tongues tickling your toes.

As you struggle along the dike on the south leg, reflect on the difficulties of Ponce de Leon during his explorations of the area 400 years ago. Look to the west and your eyes will feast on open, limitless prairie of needle grass. Great egrets speckle it like white flakes. These views are rare and unique to Palm Beach County. Continue south for four miles and, joy and wonder, you come to the north bank of the West Palm Beach Water Canal.

Now you are only two miles from your starting place. Go east and do not let the tangle and brush discourage. You have no choice; press on. On arrival at Haverhill, you have completed the world's finest hike.

Allow nine hours and bring your own lunch.
(Hank McCall)

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 1978-79

This past year has been a very challenging and rewarding one. Challenging in that we must always try to keep pace with environmental issues and take appropriate action; rewarding in that you have selected me as your representative and spokesperson and thereby allowed me to participate in some events which might not otherwise have been possible.

Two outstanding events were the presentation of \$10,750 to the Palm Beach County Library to establish an Audubon Ornithology Collection and being invited to speak at the retirement dinner of former U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer, Col. Donald A. Wisdom.

I have attended the quarterly meetings of the Southeastern Coalition of Florida Audubon Chapters, as well as all the Florida Audubon Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings. Attendance at these meetings is essential to establish good working relationships and, in my opinion, this has been accomplished. You were also represented at many other meetings too numerous to mention.

We have asked for and received help from Florida Audubon in three development issues, namely the Fox Property, Indian Lakes Estates (Uvanille) and Wellington Countryplace.

Fiscally speaking, ASE is in good shape. Dale Blocher, CPA, conducted a certified audit of our affairs and made many recommendations which we have incorporated into our operations. We have continued to contribute financially to the Florida Conservation Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, Friends of the Everglades, The Science Museum and Planetarium, Pine Jog, and Bambi Wildlife Sanctuary. Our budgeted "South

Florida Environmental Workshop" funds went to the Barrier Island Conference sponsored by Florida Atlantic University. We also helped finance Florida Audubon Society's publication, SANDSPUR, which is mailed to school media centers and science teachers.

ASE was instrumental in the Corps of Engineers conducting a workshop on the Loxahatchee Slough. This was a major accomplishment in that the Corps is now aware of state and local agency priorities in protecting the slough and river.

We continued to have a President's Advisory Board comprised of individuals whose knowledge and expertise could be called on when the need arose. To those who served in this capacity, may I express the Society's gratitude for their willingness to contribute to our efforts.

In closing, my sincere appreciation and thanks to the members of the Board of Directors for their countless hours of work in carrying out their individual assignments to help make ASE one of the best chapters in the state.

(Leah Schad)

KITE STRINGS

Many thanks to Bette Longhurst for responding to an appeal for an auditor. Bette, along with Frank Eaton, will see that our books are in order.

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Anyone wishing information about the status of any bill in the Florida legislature may dial 1-800-342-1827. This toll-free number is a service of the legislature and will terminate June 29.

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The AUDUBON LEADER, published twice a month by National Audubon, is available to anyone at a cost of \$10.00 per year. The LEADER provides up-to-date information on environmental issues across the nation. Send check, name and address to AUDUBON LEADER, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.

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Board member Alice Stearns has been invited to speak on solar energy to the Palm Beach County Commissioners. Alice has had a solar collector at her Lake Worth home since 1955.

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When Russell Peterson assumed his duties as president of National Audubon, he asked his predecessor, Dr. Elvis Stahr, to continue on the staff as Counselor to the President. One of Dr. Stahr's principal duties in the new post will be to head the Society's Washington office.

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Reports on sightings of the following wildlife are requested: red or grey foxes, gopher tortoises, fox squirrels, CaraCara birds, and minks. If you see any of these, please report the location and the date seen to: Dr. James Layne, Archbold Biological Studies Station, Route 2, Box 180, Lake Placid, Fla. 33852.

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GOING NORTH FOR THE SUMMER?

Your KITE will follow you on faster wings if you send change-of-address directly to: Gloria Hunter, 1716 13th Avenue North, Lake Worth, Fl. 33460. No phone calls, please. Remember - the KITE is third class mail - it will not be forwarded by the Post Office.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Boynton Beach: Mr. & Mrs. Richard O. Harrington

Jupiter: Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Lowry

Lake Worth: Dr. John H. Biggs III,
Dr. Robert W. Marshall Jr., Miss
Pauline Zelley

Lantana: Col. Ralph M. Butler,
John B. Huhn

North Palm Beach: John R. Math,
Susan Tiedeman

Palm Beach: George Hyam, Howard L.
Murray, Alexander R. Nelson,
Bradford Whittemore

Riviera Beach: Mrs. Mariella
Blydenstein

Tequesta: G. B. Moore, Paul C.
Nagel Jr.

West Palm Beach: George S. Campbell,
K.K. Danton, Jack Daugherty, Gerald
Davis, Ms. Dorothy B. Emin, Stuart
Grad, L.M. Hodgkins, L.Eric Johnson,
Helen Keenan, Irwin & Virginia
Langbein, Mrs. Susan Lopinot, Margie
E. Pinder, Shirer Van Steenbergh,
Judy Walter, Maureen S. Weinrich.

Out-of-State: Charles A. Kern,
Fairview, Pa.

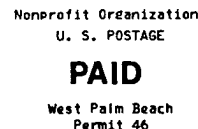
NEW ASE OFFICERS

The Society's new officers were elected at the April annual meeting. Other directors elected and committee chairmen appointed will appear in the next KITE.

President - Leah Schad, 848-9984
1st V. Pres. - Mary E. Nye, 655-1980
2nd V. Pres. - Sy Magnus, 686-4254
Secretary - Peggy Teahan, 586-4462
Treasurer - Marcia Perry, 833-3584

REMEMBER - NEXT MEETING
AT THE SCIENCE MUSEUM

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



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