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EVERGLADE KITE

AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

VOLUME 22, No. 3

Ruth Trumpower, Editor

DECEMBER 1981



NEW GUINEA SAFARI

On December 1st, Dr. Joseph R. Skyer will take us on a wildlife safari through New Guinea, illustrating his talk with color slides which he took during his recent trip to that island.

Our tour will begin at Goroka in the Eastern Highland District and proceed to the Asaro Valley. A stop at a mountain village of one of the Chimbu tribes will afford us views of the Chimbis using great amounts of feathers and body coloring in their native dances. Additional stops include the Baiyer River Bird of Paradise Sanctuary, the Sepik River District, with stops at many villages along the Karawari River, and then on to Wewak before arriving at Port Moresby.

New Guinea is particularly noted for its dense, lush tropical rain forests and many species of brilliantly colored birds, in addition to some of the most primitive people in the world.

Dr. Skyer is an excellent photographer and a long-time member of the Audubon Society. Join us for a most interesting evening on Tuesday, December 1, at 7:30 o'clock in the West Palm Beach Garden Club Center on Dreher Trail North.

(Leah Schad)

AUDUBON FIELD TRIPS

LOXAHATCHEE WILDLIFE REFUGE, Saturday, Dec. 5 - Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Marsh Nature Trail. Ann Ayers, leader. Be prepared to walk about two miles. Bring binoculars, scope and bird field guide if you have them. In addition to birding, we will do some plant identification and look for animal tracks and reptiles.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT, Saturday, Dec. 19. All team members are reminded to call their group leaders for meeting time and place. Compilation will be at the Bonanza Sirloin Pit, 1029 N. Congress Avenue, Palm Springs, at 6:30 p.m.

(H. P. Langridge, Compiler)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

As I begin writing this I am sitting in the Nov. 18th meeting of the Solid Waste Authority. This meeting will undoubtedly be like the last one - a room filled with citizens irate over a proposed resource recovery facility that may be located in the area of Century Village.

I can't help but reflect not only on this problem, but on the multitude of other problems facing Palm Beach County and the state as a whole, problems that have come about from growth without any real

consideration of the long-range consequences.

Recent high tides have caused severe erosion of our beaches - only a hint of what will result when a major hurricane hits us. We have somehow survived a drought, but there is talk already of again restricting water use and concerns about how much water will be available next year. Yet not one community has initiated a serious water conservation program, and building permits are still being issued.

On an almost daily basis we see Army Corps of Engineers and DER permit applications which will result in the filling and loss of wetlands -- wetlands which serve as an invaluable part of the ecological scheme to cleanse water, recharge aquifers, and provide habitat for wildlife.

The unfortunate aspect of all this is that it doesn't have to happen. There are ways of building and developing areas in a manner which is ecologically sound and will still provide a reasonable profit.

My message is this: we need you to get involved with the issues! The choice is rather simple: do nothing, in which case you really can't complain; or do something by getting involved, learning about the issues and offering positive constructive input.

Audubon's Citizen Mobilization Campaign is the way to start getting involved. I would like to thank the additional 30 members who signed up at our November meeting for the Audubon Campaign. We are off to a good start. We will submit these names to NAS, which will then keep these people informed, through the Audubon Action Alert, about critical national environmental issues. Write for more information, or to have your name and address put on the list of those who realize the urgent need to protect our environment.

The people have shown repeatedly that the environment is of major concern to them - yet the administration seemingly disregards their concerns. One example is the Reagan-Gorsuch funding proposal for the EPA, which will cut its funding 59 to 64% in fiscal '82.

The time is overdue for you as an Audubon member and for us as a group to organize ourselves into an effective force. I hope you'll find the time -- because the time to get involved is NOW! (Walt Gworek)

For Your

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Visit the SALES TABLE on December 1st

More new merchandise!!

BIRDING ON LAKE WORTH

Walking the shores and bridges of Lake Worth will bring into your vision a constant, but changing, drama of birds.

Even mid-summer has its stars, with the little terns putting on an aerial ballet as they fish the waters. Pelicans clown around, fish crows rough-house like schoolboys, and the gulls and cormorants sunbathe.

September brings a new act. The lake is worked by black terns. Wilson's plovers, turnstones, and sanderling probe the mudflats. The flocks of ibis and cattle egret get bigger.

With October, the soaring raptors return. The most spectacular sights are the kettles of thousands of turkey vultures. During late afternoon of a clear day, look for them along the coast, particularly near the Bath & Tennis Club. If you stand on the Southern Blvd. causeway an hour before sunset and at low tide, you will see birds every minute in every direction.

Sometimes during my walks, exotics such as canary-wing parakeets, Hills myna, and Amazonian parrots perch or fly by in easy view.

As in the story "Acres of Diamonds," you need not venture afar; we have this treasure of birds around our own Lake Worth.

(Hank McCall)

NATURE TRAIL NEWS

The nature trail workshop on November 7th was a success, thanks to all those who came and to those who gave us such good publicity. Special thanks to the three repeat helpers who attended a Saturday workshop for the second time. Also to the eight members of the Pelican Club of Palm Beach who joined us. The attendance was most encouraging to those of us who are regulars at the Thursday morning sessions.

Classes from Palm Beach Gardens Elementary School are making field trips to the Custard Apple Trail and the kids enjoy everything, especially the edible berries and the boardwalk. (Hella Wayman)

CONSERVATION REPORT

The evening of Nov. 17th, John Street presented the case for the state's acquisition of the Loxahatchee headwaters and corridor. He had the support of many local conservation and civic organizations and the feeling of Jan Terhune, who attended, is that, although the competition is stiff, the proposal was well received.

Once again there is a feasibility study being made for taking a piece of land (used by the Girl Scouts) from Jonathan Dickinson State Park to facilitate the traffic flow from an existing condominium. Seems like, if the conc. was built to then-approved specifications, that's the way it should remain. We will wait to hear from the Girl Scouts before taking any new action. (continued page 4)

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Boynton Beach: Vicki & Ed Boe, Charlene & Alfred Boynton

Delray Beach: Margaret Ahearn

Jupiter: Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Clark, Andrew Nevad, Jr. & Family, Lester S. Ostrander, Gary Stephens

Lake Worth: Janice Fellers, Thomas J. Sarko, Martha Walker

Lantana: Catherine L. Burger, Helen K. Jarvinen

North Palm Beach: William C. George, Mr. & Mrs. John E. Larkin

Palm Beach: Mrs. Leslie O. Ashton

Palm Beach Gardens: Mrs. R. R. Leonard

Palm Springs: Grace L. Frase

Royal Palm Beach: Dr. Arthur Blumenthal & Family

Singer Island: Dr. Mark Stein & Family

Tequesta: Mrs. Frank L. Henderson

West Palm Beach: Stephen Ande, Mrs. Marjorie I. Hagn, Diane Moore, Mrs. P. S. Paine, L. H. Read Jr., David Sapir, D. Sewell, Mr. & Mrs. Earl J. Trapp, William M. Watt, Betty G. Whitmore & Family

All chapter-generated new members enrolled after 10/1/81 are being entered in the NAS Membership Contest.

AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP CONTEST

As announced in the September KITE, National Audubon has launched a chapter-incentive campaign to build membership, with prizes awarded in each of the nine Audubon regions to the chapters with the highest numerical gain, the highest percentage gain, and the greatest renewal rate. We are one of the largest chapters in the Southeast Region. Surely we should capture at least one of these prizes! The regional prizes consist of all-expense visits to Francis Beidler Forest, S.C., or a one-week stay at the Audubon Camp in Conn. National awards entitle the winners to participate in a NAS tour of Canada's most spectacular national parks. What a nice free summer vacation for someone.

To encourage each member to give Audubon memberships as Christmas gifts (and to urge their friends, neighbors and professional acquaintances to join), our local chapter has decided to award these prizes, if our chapter should win, to one of our new members, the donor thereof, or the one "selling" the new membership. Winner to be chosen by lot.

RULES: Donors' names will be entered as contestants, one chance for each gift membership. Other new member names will be entered automatically unless the person responsible for the membership receives permission that his/her name be used in the drawing instead. Our chapter will be credited with memberships sent anywhere as long as they originated from this chapter. If our chapter name does not appear on the application form, we will not be given credit, nor will we share in the first year's membership fees. **SEND ALL NEW MEMBERSHIPS TO GLORIA HUNTER, MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN, 1716 13th Avenue North, Lake Worth 33460.** Checks should be made payable to National Audubon Society. All entries must be received by March 28, 1982. Questions? Call me, 585-7714.

Renewal memberships should be sent to NAS as usual, with the computer card enclosed with the renewal notice. Renew promptly so that this chapter receives proper credit in the contest. Remember, now as never before, your support and dues are desperately needed. (Gloria Hunter)

BEACH BIRDS CAN PROVIDE FIRSTS

Through the years the beaches of Palm Beach County have produced new species for Florida. While strolling the beach at Phipp's Park on 14 November 1958, Roberta Knight walked past a dead bird that she identified as a Cory's Shearwater. When she mentioned this to Robert Cointepoix and me after dark, we rushed to the beach to pick up the now-ripe corpse. We sent the bill and feet to the Smithsonian Institution for confirmation. Jubilation time - Palm Beach County added a new species from the beach for the state.

On 21 November 1959 on Ibis Island Causeway only several hundred yards from the spot where the Cory's Shearwater was found, I kicked about a very dead bird with a thin sharp (continued page 4)

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Adult _____ Yearly Dues \$25.00 ()
Family _____ 32.00 ()
ADDRESS: _____ Sr. Citizen _____ 17.00 ()
Sr. Citizen Family _____ 19.00 ()
City/State/Zip: _____ Student _____ 15.00 ()

() Yes, enter my name in the NEW Membership Contest
() This is a gift. Enter my name instead. DONOR _____
() I enrolled the above new member. I have their permission to enter my name in the contest instead of theirs. NAME _____

Use this form, or the one in your yearly ASE program, or slips of paper. Mail to G. Hunter, Membership, 1716 13th Avenue North, Lake Worth 33460. Checks should be made payable to National Audubon Society.

KITE STRINGS

AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILM SERIES - Tickets to the series make excellent gifts. Brochures and tickets will be available at the December meeting.

WANTED: Use of 17 ft. or larger boat for oceanic bird study. Call H. P. Langridge, 582-7519.

SAVE FLORIDA'S RAPTORS - SAVE STAMPS - Are you rescuing all commemorative, memorial or foreign stamps from your mail? The sale of these stamps pays for the expenses of the FAS birds of prey sanctuary.

Do not remove stamps from envelopes; cut carefully around stamp to leave safe margin so perforations are intact. If you're too busy, bring in the envelopes; we'll trim the stamps. If in doubt about the kind of stamps to save, just send them on, we'll weed out the "good" ones. Think of other sources for stamps - places receiving quantities of mail - and enlist their help. Bring your collection to our monthly meeting - there's a marked box by the door - or give them to any board member, or mail to Alice Stearns, 1026 North "O" St., Lake Worth 33460. Stamps not saleable: regular issues in denominations under 50¢, or Christmas Stamps.

FAS will soon announce a new con-

test - with awards to the chapter sending in the greatest number of stamps. Start saving now!

CONSERVATION (cont'd.)

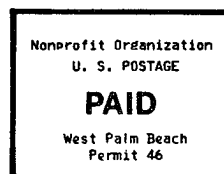
Without a doubt, by our next Conservation Meeting Wednesday, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m., at the Parks & Recreation Bldg., there will be many matters of concern needing discussion and action. Join us - this is another good way to get involved. (Cissy Durando)

BEACH BIRDS (cont'd.)

bill that puzzled me. I left the bird for an hour, to return to kick the bird again. I noted the loon feet as I left. When I returned home, my mind would not rest. I called Robert Cointepoix to gather the remains and mail them to the Smithsonian. Palm Beach County added another species to the state list - an Artic Loon.

On 30 October 1960, Dwight and Atha Green brought a dead shearwater from Juno Beach to me for identifying. Quickly measuring the bird determined it to be a Manx Shearwater (confirmed by Wetmore of Smithsonian), first record for Florida. Hoorah! Palm Beach County added another new species to the state from the beach. So, if you find a dead bird on the beach, let me know, 582-7519, or bring the bird to me. (H. P. Langridge)

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