



EVERGLADE KITE

AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

VOLUME 24, No. 7

Ruth Trumpower, Editor

MAY 1984

Actually Volume 24, No. 8

ENVIRONMENTAL LAND MANAGEMENT FEATURED

Robert C. Apgar, Executive Director of Florida's Environmental Land Management Study Committee (ELMS II), will be the guest speaker at ASE's May 1st meeting.

Mr. Apgar will talk about the ELMS Committee's year-long deliberations, the substance of its recommendations, and the progress of growth management legislation in the current legislative session.

After graduating from the U. S. Air Force Academy in 1966 and his service in the Air Force, Mr. Apgar received his law degree from the FSU College of Law in 1977. He has been involved with environmental issues ever since he began practicing law and became executive director of the ELMS Committee in 1982.

Do join us on Tuesday, May 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the West Palm Beach Garden Club Center to learn more about the urgent importance of re-directing and strengthening Florida's planning and growth management laws.

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 8:00 A.M. - Palm Beach Lake Trail. Meet at Poinciana Chapel parking lot. Marge Eaton, leader.

CENTRAL APR 27 1984

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 7:00 A.M. - Tern Nesting at Okeehetee Park, Forest Hill Blvd. Meet at Main Entrance parking lot. John Street, leader.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal year 1983-84 began for Audubon Society of the Everglades with a dinner/meeting at Ramada Inn on the Green at which Rupert Cutler, formerly with National Audubon, was the guest speaker.

We honored Randy Schultz, a PALM BEACH POST reporter, with a Special Conservation Award for his articles on the Ocean Ridge beach renourishment project. We presented Jim Barry of the Palm Beach County Health Department with the Conservation of the Year Award for outstanding service during his tenure as Supervisory Biologist with that agency. To round out our awards, Peggy Teahan was given the Rara Avis Award for exceptional service to ASE.

We have had a busy time this year, with many projects demanding action, meetings and hearings to attend, and the usual involvement in the day-to-day workings of our Society. I think there are many things of which we can be proud.

We are more than half-way to putting our financial affairs into
(continued p.2)

excellent condition. On the advice of our accountant, we began to establish an account equal to one year's budget so that we can expend monies on hand rather than what we hope to get. It will take another year or two before we attain the final goal, but this effort is coming along nicely.

We have continued to support other organizations such as Pine Jog Environmental Sciences Center, Florida Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy, The Science Museum, Friends of the Everglades, Florida Conservation Foundation, and Tall Timbers Research Station. We helped with the cost of producing a brochure on the Clean Air Act prepared by the American Lung Association.

Beginning in 1976, when we contributed to the construction of a boardwalk, we have consistently supported the education program at the Francis Biedler Forest in South Carolina, a National Audubon sanctuary also known as Four Hole Swamp.

We were honored by Florida Audubon Society at its annual convention in November 1983 as Outstanding Chapter of the Year...an honor which could not have been achieved without:

Rosa "Cissy" Durando, who has done yoeman's service attending meetings and hearings on our behalf as Conservation Chairman. She, too, was honored by FAS for her work. And she was recently appointed to the county's Land Use Advisory Board by Commissioner Dorothy Wilken.

The Field Trips have been led by a number of outstanding individuals under the coordination of John Street. Stella Rossi assumed the role of Wildlife Film Series director and did a "howling" job under adverse odds. Helen Gilmore has spearheaded our Education Committee which was responsible for our involvement in the Science Fair, coordinating the visit of National Audubon's traveling exhibit, THE ARK, and organizing the programs for Doris Mager's lectures in the county's schools.

With National Audubon's conversion to Neodata, a new computer system, Gloria Hunter has managed to maintain her sanity and a sense of humor in keeping the membership records in order. Last minute deadlines have never dampened the spirit of Ruth Trumpower who edits our newsletter. She also hosts the Board of Directors and the Conservation Committee each month in her home.

Susan Korzenewski's artistic talents have kept our message before the public in words and pictures. Make it a must to see our exhibit if you haven't already. It's just great! Sylvia and Carl Dunnam have been the perfect hostess and host for our monthly meetings, for which Charles Dennis has ably set up the programs. Publicizing these meetings, as well as other activities, has been the responsibility of Andrea Thomas, who went about her duties with speed and efficiency.

Tom McElroy continues to take care of the needs of our Ornithological Collection at the Palm Beach County Public Library. You met Al Liberman earlier when he presented the revised Bylaws for approval. This project took Al at least a year and a half of data gathering from other chapters and organizations. Martha Wade

has performed her secretarial duties well. Taking care of the minutes and correspondence can be time consuming, but Martha was always cheerful and pleasant about her work. We will miss her next year.

Don Braender has been a superb treasurer, a position which takes many hours of work in order to do the job right. The Sales Table, under the supervision of Nancy and Dick Harrington, not only offered unusual items to buy, but brought in fantastic sums of money. Ray Plockelman has continued to keep an eye on the Sanctuary Islands in Lake Worth.

These are the people who have kept our Society operating and functioning this past year. They have all done their jobs with dedication and enthusiasm.

From the bottom of my heart, I say thanks to each of you . . . for without you my job would have been much more difficult.

Certainly one of my highlights of the past year was attending the National Audubon Convention in Estes Park, Colorado. The programs and workshops were excellent, Rocky Mountain National Park was breathtaking (especially at the 12,000+ elevation), and the attendees were quite congenial.

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REMEMBER - WETLANDS DAY IS MAY 8TH. You still have time to write your legislators, if you haven't done so, urging their support for strong protection of these extremely important natural resources.

We would like to call your attention to the television program, ACTION LINE, on May 20 on Channel 29 (consult newspaper for time). The topic of discussion will be the Loxahatchee Refuge Deer Hunt. Panel participants will be Lt. Biff Lampton, Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission; Burkett Neeley, Manager of Loxahatchee Refuge, and Toby Cooper, Defenders of Wildlife. During the program, viewers will be given an address for mailing comments about the hunt - pro and con. Be prepared to get that address and express your feelings.

A new booklet, "How To Cope With The Corps," is available at \$5.00 pp. from Ecopress, Box 786, Charleston, SC 29402. The book is co-authored by Marvin Zeldin, freelance writer and consultant, and W. Carlyle Blakeney, Jr., National Audubon Society's Southeast Region Vice-president. (Leah Schad)

KITE STRINGS

Your EVERGLADE KITE is 3rd class mail and will not be forwarded. Please advise Membership Chairman Gloria Hunter, 1716 13th Avenue Borth, Lake Worth 33460, immediately if you wish your address changed for the summer.

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Since 1956, the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology has fostered cooperation between birders and professional ornithologists, contributing to the understanding of birds themselves and of what their behavior can tell us about the health of our environment. Through a variety of programs, including Cooperative Research, Home Study Courses and THE LIVING

BIRD QUARTERLY (available to members only), the Laboratory seeks to stimulate and educate all who are interested in learning about living birds. For membership, etc. information, write Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Sapsucker Woods, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850.

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SPRING BIRD COUNT

For a good assortment of migrating land birds, every birder wishes for cloudy skies or the passage of a front. Saturday, April 21, the day of Palm Beach County's annual Spring Bird Count, proved to be one of a series of clear, warm, almost windless spring days. The local birders gathered in teams and set out to count the birds in their assigned areas with forebodings of a birdless day.

In the evening they gathered for the compilation of the day's results at the home of Al and Barbara Liberman. Everyone had sad tales of the dearth of warblers, the absence of thrushes, the disappearance of favorite areas to shopping centers. Despite the uncooperative weather, and the extremely low numbers of migrants, the final count proved to be exceptionally good. A total of 121 species tied the all-time record set in 1980 of the most species reported in the spring count in 24 years. Thirteen species were represented by only one individual bird.

A record number of birders, diligently seeking out the few birds here, made this outstanding record possible.

Among those counting were Al and Barbara Liberman, Marty Harwood, Marge Eaton, Terry and Gail Palmer, the Kalnes, Hank and Irma McCall, Victor Mueller, Jim Doty, Brian and Julian Hope, Leah Schad, Peggy Teahan, Paul Sykes, Ruth Trumpower, Carolyn Christian, Dorothy Clifford, Jane and John Thomas, Murray and Florence Klein, Connie Albera, Bill Hartramps, Joe Sandella, Helen Branhall, Linda Tibbets, Dorothy Brindle and Dominic Sherron. Welcome to the newcomers to our count. Join us again next fall. (Gloria Hunter)

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Lake Worth: J. C. Brudvik, Thomas A. Clark, Mrs. Charles Minster

Palm Beach: Mrs. Maxine W. Banash

Palm Beach Gardens: Charles M. Davis, Charlene Kinnaird, Philip Sorensen

Riviera Beach: M. C. Lucy, H. Wooden

West Palm Beach: Barbara E. Eubanks, Mr. & Mrs. James Hinchliff, Max A. Linn, Robert Sawtelle

CONSERVATION REPORT

The wetlands legislation has been covered sufficiently in the press and the ASE bulletin sent out on the 16th. I just wish to add - writing to one legislator is better than writing to none, if one is your limit - and Senator Harry Johnson is probably the most important one to contact; his address is in that bulletin.

One of the most permanently and environmentally destructive land uses has got to be shell rock mining, which is also dealt with in the wetlands bill. The practice is reviewed by SFWMD at present, but it does not seem to be within their scope to consistently prevent such mining. Urge our legislators not to change the Everglades boundary to permit the westward expansion to suit special interests.

We want cumulative impact considered, fish and wildlife protection, the end of exemptions through "grandfather" provisions, and that the new DER vegetation list be accepted as the criteria for identifying wetlands.

One does not have to look too hard, where homes and condos have sprouted amongst the mangroves, to see old, vigorous stands of mangroves butchered to the point where they cannot survive. Express your support for HB 720; it would place severe restrictions on mangrove cutting anywhere in the state.

Since we are especially blest in our area by our Senator Johnston connection, possibly one of the most important environmental steps we should urge him to take is to increase Conservation & Recreation Lands funding. No doubt land costs will escalate in view of the recent Florida Supreme Court ruling that state agencies must pay fair market rates to property owners who claim that government improvements will increase the value of their holdings. Can't help but wonder how this will impact the Collier land deal, what with highway and interchange plans. This deal has so many ramifications that I can not cover it in a column. We will learn more at the May SFWMD board meeting.

Because of the timing of the announcement, we have not had a chance at a Conservation Committee meeting to discuss the Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission proposal to end the ban on fox hunting which has been in effect since 1973. Nor will ASE's Board of Directors take any stand on the proposal. If you wish to comment, send letter immediately to Kenneth Gilleland, General Counsel, Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, 620 South Meridian Street, Tallahassee 32301.

On the national Clean Water level, I am pleased to see that Representative Dan Mica has signed on to co-sponsor HR 3282. And after a victorious wetlands law suit (by NAS, FAS and many other environmental groups), the Corps will be obliged to improve regulations, broaden the definition of protected wetlands, and limit the use of general permits. In short, Section 404 was rehabilitated.

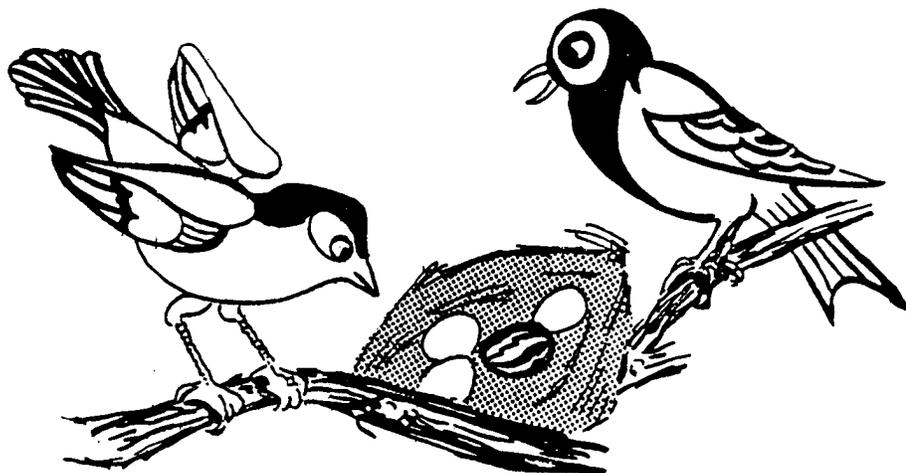
National Audubon cites overwhelming evidence of the terrible effects of lead poisoning of birds on federal lands, including national wildlife refuges. We have G. Ray Arnett, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, to thank for undercutting and cashiering the program to change from lead to steel shot. Wildlife managers consider the threat of lead poisoning to bird life is second in importance to habitat loss.

Write Representative Dan Mica, 131 Cannon House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515, with a copy to William P. Clark, Secretary of the Interior, Department of the Interior,

Washington, D.C. 20240. Urge that the federal government resume its non-toxic shot initiative.

NEXT CONSERVATION MEETING -
Wednesday, May 9, home of Ruth
Trumpower, 165 Auburn Drive, Lake
Worth. (Cissy Durando)

CARTOON



Why does one egg have streaks
and all the others are pale blue?

Oh, I did that for
a lark! —V. Muller

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