



# EVERGLADE KITE

AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

VOLUME 25, No. 5

Ruth Trumpower, Editor

FEBRUARY 1985

## NAS SWAMP SANCTUARY FEATURED IN FEBRUARY

"The Francis Beidler Forest - Audubon's Sanctuary in the Four Holes Swamp" will be the subject of the program given by Norman L. Brunswig, who is manager/biologist of the sanctuary, at ASE's February 5th meeting.

Located near Harleysville, S.C., which is off I-26 east of I-95, the sanctuary preserves unique swamp areas and is known for its environmental education programs, to which our Society contributes each year.

Mr. Brunswig received his B.S. in Wildlife Management at Auburn University in 1968 and his M.S. in Forestry and Wildlife Management at University of Georgia in 1973. Since that time he has been with the Beidler Forest sanctuary. He was recently appointed as the southeast area manager for the National Audubon Society's Sanctuary Department.

This subject should be especially interesting to ASE members who go back and forth to the north, as it is not too far off the beaten path and worthy of a visit while enroute. Do join us and bring a friend to the meeting on Tuesday, February 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the West Palm Beach Garden Club Center in Dreher Park. All interested persons are welcome at our monthly meetings and field trips.

## FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9 - 2:00 P.M. - Singer Island. Meet at Phil Foster Park, low tide should provide many birds. Leader, Hank McCall.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23 - Shark Valley  
Bus trip is completely filled.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9 - 4:30 P.M. - Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge Evening Walk. Meet at the Marsh Trail parking lot. Leaders, Ann and Phil Weinrich.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

WANTED: PROGRAM CHAIRMAN - Responsible for monthly meeting speakers, arranging schedule in advance. HOSPITALITY CHAIRMAN - Responsible for seeing that refreshments are served at monthly meetings. Not necessary to do alone...can arrange for a different person each month. Just be sure the job is done. All expenses are paid by the Society. MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN - Responsible for keeping membership files up to date, sending out letters to potential members, reminders to lapsing members. Perfect for someone who pays a lot of attention to details.

SANCTUARIES - Responsible for checking on islands in Lake Worth and Kitching Creek. A canoeist would be ideal. NATURE TRAIL - Enjoy working

with plants and shrubs (native, of course) and supervising weekly work parties. Also organize guided walks from January through March. If any of these jobs interest you, please speak to any member of the Nominating Committee: Chuck Potter, Chairman (586-4221), Barbara Liberman (965-2909) or Peggy Teahan (586-4462).

We have received an announcement from Peter Quincy, environmental coordinator, FP&L, regarding its annual Manatee Awareness Workshops. Interested parties please note that March 6th is the date for our area at Norine Rousé Scuba Club, 4708 No. Dixie Hwy., West Palm Beach, from 7-8:30 p.m. There is no fee.

A booklet, "Sea Turtle Hatching, Disorientation & Artificial Beachfront Lighting," prepared by Paul W. Raymond, Dept. of Biological Science, U. of Central Florida, is available for those interested. This is a working document for owners of beachfront buildings and/or governmental agencies who would be inclined to reduce the intensity of lighting on their property during the sea turtle nesting season. Copies may be obtained from Dr. Peter C. H. Pritchard, Florida Audubon Society, 1100 Audubon Way, Maitland, FL 32751.

ATTENTION, AMATEUR NATURE PHOTOGRAPHERS - The Tampa Audubon Society has scheduled its 6th Annual Nature Photography Contest, deadline April 30, 1985. Only amateurs may enter with color slides of anything related to nature, taken in Florida. Entry fee is \$2.50 per slide, 5/\$10.00, color slides only. Cash prizes for first, second and third places and five honorable mentions (miscellaneous prizes). Mail slides with fee to TAMPA AUDUBON SOCIETY, P.O. Box 320025, Tampa, FL 33679 by April 30, 1985.

Each slide must have photographer's name on the slide mount (no stick-on labels) and may be duplicated by Tampa Audubon for use by its education committee. Please include information about each slide such as type of camera, lens, exposure, when, where and how taken. Also include self-addressed, stamped envelope and your slides will be returned after June 15th. Awarding of prizes and showing the winning entries will take place at the Tampa Audubon meeting on May 28th. Good luck!

We have received a letter from Howard Blume in connection with Sierra Club Books. Mr. Blume and Sierra Club Books are putting together a book to be titled THE BIRDER'S BACKYARD JOURNAL. The title is self-explanatory and Mr. Blume is looking for contributions to his work.

Anyone interested may reply to him at 357 Mountain Road, Irvington, New York. Data he is seeking are your backyard life list, any anecdotes, a short description (by month) of what goes on in your backyard, can you distinguish one month from another by the birds, what winter birds do you have at your feeder, what do you feed them, spring migration for your yard, year-round residents, and what changes have taken place over the years in your backyard regarding species and numbers? If you want to be memorialized, now's your chance.

BALD EAGLE DAYS 1985 is a conference sponsored by The Eagle Valley Foundation, S.O.A.R.,

and Florida Audubon. There will be daily paper sessions and field trips to Merritt Island, Kennedy Space Center, and aerial survey of an eagles nest, plus others. ASE participants in a Friday night panel discussion on the Everglades include Claudine Laabs and Leah Sch. Claudine's color slides will be an integral part of the panel program, which Leah is moderating. Brochures will be available at our February meeting. The conference will take place February 15-17 at the Americana Dutch Resort Hotel, Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830, phone 305/828-4444. If you want a reservation there, contact the hotel directly before February 1.

We have received a request from Mr. Joe McDonald, photographer and author of "A Practical Guide to Photographing Wildlife," who plans to be in south Florida in March. He is interested in photographing "an especially cooperative animal, a neat pet, tame bobcat, nesting owls, snake collections, etc." He would welcome company "in the field" as well. If interested, contact him at 515 Dalton St., Emmaus, PA 18049, 215/965-3405.

The Finance Committee appointed at ASE's January board meeting includes Al Liberman, chairman; Terry Palmer, Gloria Hunter and Ruth Trumpower.

We have begun planning for your Annual Meeting well in advance of the April 21st date. As previously announced in this column, many of our activities in April will focus on the 200th anniversary of the birth of John James Audubon. We will also have a drawing for a beautifully framed print of Florida's state bird, the Mockingbird, by Richard Evans Younger. The print will be on display at February and March meetings. A donation of \$1.00 is requested for each ticket eligible for this prize. You may buy as many as you wish.

We hope that the membership will participate in submitting nominees for our annual Conservation Award. If you know someone you think should be considered, please let us know. Conservation Chairman Rosa (Cissy) Durando will present the name to her committee.

The board voted to continue our financial support of the education programs at the Francis Beidler-Four Holes Swamp and will present Manager/Biologist Norman Brunswig with a check in the amount of \$100 at our February meeting.

Broward Audubon Society is sponsoring another "Three Authors Luncheon" on Saturday, March 2, at the Kapok Tree Inn, 3501 S.W. 130 Avenue, Davie, Florida. Featured guests will be Jonnie Fisk, author of THE PEACOCKS OF BABOQUIVARI; Nathaniel Reed, co-author of THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, and Marjory Stoneman Douglas, author of many familiar volumes. She will do a preview of a biography-in-progress of THE QUEST FOR W. H. HUDSON. The program begins at 11 a.m. with a nature walk on the grounds, a cash bar at noon, luncheon at 12:30 and meet the authors at 2 p.m. Reservations are \$10 payable by check to Broward County Audubon Society, Box 16343, Plantation 33318, (305/792-7111). Reservations must be made by February 25 and tickets will be held at the door.

Our Board of Directors has voted to seek denial of after-the-fact permit application to

the Corps of Engineers and the Florida Dept. of Environmental Regulation by Mar-Palm Ranch & Farm Inc. (old Pal-Mar) to fill wetlands with approximately 86,394 cubic yards of material. In addition, we will ask for restoration.

Local newspapers carried an article recently which has raised the blood pressure of a number of us. It seems the 8th District U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled 8 to 3 that eagles and other protected species may be killed on reservation lands to obtain feathers and body parts for religious ceremonies. Environmental organizations based in Washington will no doubt ask for a stay of this order until the U.S. Supreme Court can act on the matter. In the meantime, this decision will more than likely play havoc with the pending litigation of State of Florida vs. Chief Billie (over the killing of a Florida panther).

The Board of Directors of the Florida Audubon Society met January 19th. Elected to fill unexpired terms were former Senator Warren Henderson and NAS board member Jim Kessler. Also seated were a dozen chapter representatives, in accordance with a new amendment in the FAS bylaws. The Canoe-a-thon is set for April, as outlined in the last issue of the FLORIDA NATURALIST. This year's goal - \$15,000.

The "Save the Manatee" Committee is doing very well. Almost \$37,000 has been raised from residents of every state in the U.S., seven foreign countries and 234 servicemen stationed in Korea and aboard the U.S.S. Enterprise! Consensus was that we need to have year-round protection from boaters and that we should get a letter-writing campaign going to Dr. Elton Gissendanner asking that the lower speeds in manatee areas be implemented and enforced all year. For those of you wishing to write, address him at the Dept. of Natural Resources, Marjory Stoneman Douglas Bldg., Tallahassee.

A great deal of discussion at the FAS meeting centered around the upcoming legislative session, especially the D.R.I. process.

Florida Audubon has officially taken over the management of Audubon House in Key West. They, too, are planning a special celebration for the bicentennial of John James Audubon. (Leah Schad)

#### GIANT MANATEE DOLL ANYONE?????

Stitching and pattern-making expertise is needed to complete a unique environmental teaching aid. It's a life-size soft manatee! The materials are in hand and machines are available to stitch the naugahyde. Steve Bass, naturalist for the county schools, would like to work with you seamsters and seamstresses to complete the beast.

When complete, the naugahyde model would be anatomically correct both internally and externally. It would be used for a special endangered-species program at county environmental centers. If you're sewing-wise and want to help, call 365-4776 (Boca) during business hours, or 968-4017 evenings. Ask for Steve and leave your name and number.

(Steve Bass)

#### CONSERVATION REPORT

Growth management is the main stem from which sprout all the other things we work for. Whether one's chief concern is bird sightings, manatee and panther survival, quantity and quality of water, beach access, fishing, or a shot at a public tennis court, it is obvious that a burgeoning population is making itself felt. To put it succinctly, the more land we spread over, the less land available for other life forms.

The first discussion of Growth Management in '85 will relate to the C-51 basin (once almost declared an Area of Critical State Concern). It takes place January 31 at 8:30 a.m. at the P.B. Airport Hilton. In view of our local political climate, I fear what the outcome will be. I urge you to keep reminding your County Commissioners that we do not wish to set up the mechanism that could drain off quickly any rainfall in the western part of our county. The control structure would be built by the Corps of Engineers (and we're all familiar with its track record). The construction cost would range around the \$15 million mark, but those federal dollars will be as nothing when compared to the local dollars necessary to supply the amenities (and a jail-house too). The above argument is based on the most common denominator - water! More valid, but lately less popular, is the argument that the little left of our unique heritage is close to being traded off forever. Unbelievable as it may seem, the word is out that our upcoming legislature will not get too deeply involved with growth management on a state level this year.

Our local coalition for Wilderness Islands is working on several fronts: (1) an ordinance to legalize and protect wilderness parks, which are vaguely alluded to in the Comprehensive Plan as having a place in the scheme of things; (2) looking for knowledgeable volunteers in north county to help discover and work for preserving good examples of surviveable native habitat; (3) watchdogging the appointed Study Committee for the Kovens property scrub area.

I attended an all-day Regional Wetland Permitting Workshop, which was the fourth of five such workshops held across the state. It was sponsored by Environmental Science & Engineering Inc. and the U. of Florida's TREECO Center. The theme was jurisdictions and wetland issues. The topics covered were: (1) an overview of federal, state, regional and local agencies; (2) status of wetlands, types, functions and importance; (3) a legal opinion on present and future federal and state wetland legislation, recent rule changes and how they may affect wetland development;

(4) Corps of Engineers permitting requirements in South Florida; (5) DER's wetland permit requirements; (6) ditto for DNR from two points of view: land management and aquatic preserves; (7) SFWMD permit requirements; (8) Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council's wetland development constraints; (9) Martin County's development constraints.

The seminar closed with a panel discussion joined by a representative of General Development Corp., who made a pitch for streamlined permitting. The closest he got to sympathy was the C.O.E. declaring it would like to "turn over

everything to the state." All the others deplored one-stop permitting and/or a mega agency.

There were some constructive suggestions: (1) sharing information; (2) state guidelines for comprehensive state, regional, and local plans; (3) wet prairies should be adequately protected, and (4) adequate state funding to implement plans.

Martin County was praised as a county with an excellent plan (let us hope "tomorrow" will be as good as "yesterday"). The one-stop permitting that the power industry lobbied for and got is not too good. Curiously, our DNR representative equated "mitigation" with failure. The Warren Handerson Wetlands Protection Act was reviewed. Despite the broadening of three criteria supposed to protect wetlands (vegetative, soil, hydrological indices), DNR is still hampered by the fact that land cannot be protected if it is an isolated area. I have about ten pages of notes and 1/2 inch thick rule books from each agency. It's a wordy topic!

Nationally, we should be contacting our Congress people to re-form and support the Omnibus Water Resources Bill; re-authorize the Clean Air Act and strengthen amendments cutting pollution causing acid rain and controlling emissions of toxic pollutants; strengthen the Farm Bill with provisions to prevent run-off and non-point-source pollution from erosion;

Most important: passage of the Superfund Bill (it will cease to exist unless re-authorized); re-authorize and strengthen the Endangered Species Act; also of great importance: the Coastal Zone Management Act will cease to exist unless re-authorized in the first half of '85.

I will be happy to discuss these bills further if you contact me (965-2420) or attend a Conservation meeting. It would be a great plus to send copies of your legislative

correspondence to the chairmen of the committees most closely involved, especially on whichever bill is your chief concern. I have the chairmen's names and addresses.

Next Conservation Committee meeting - Wednesday, February 13, home of Ruth Trum-  
power, 165 Auburn Drive, Lake Worth.

(Cissy Durando)

#### EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

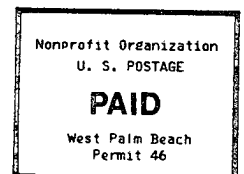
Audubon Club sponsors met on January 3rd to discuss club activities, distribute materials, and share their delight with the student response over the Audubon Adventures newsletters and club activities.

Chuck Potter and Donna Dietz have graciously volunteered to judge, for the Audubon awards, the Science Fair projects which will be on display at the Palm Beach Mall from March 4th through 9th.

Scholarships totaling \$500.00 will be given to ten conscientious and dedicated teachers to participate in the "Project Wild" outdoor education seminar to be held February 22-24 at the Corbett Wildlife Management Area.

Doris Mager will be back April 15, 16, 17 and 18 to lecture in our schools. She is also available in the evenings for organizations desiring her program. Contact me, 734-5748, to arrange a program. (Dale Neuenschwander)

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