



EVERGLADE KITE

AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

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Ruth Trumpower, Editor

OCTOBER 1985

NONGAME WILDLIFE PROGRAM FEATURED

With a talk and slides, Victor J. Heller will present an "Overview of Florida's Nongame Wildlife Program" at ASE's October 1st meeting. Mr. Heller is Section Supervisor for the Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission in Tallahassee.

He is known to many in our community for his service as wildlife biologist to the J.W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area. This was one of six state wildlife management areas in which he has supervised management programs since 1978.

Mr. Heller is active in the Florida Chapter and Southeastern Section of The Wildlife Society. He is a member of National Audubon Society, The Ornithologist's Union and The Wilson and The Cooper Ornithological Societies. In addition to his current responsibilities in nongame management, his professional interests include wetlands, endangered species and waterfowl management, and the teaching of ornithology.

Visitors, guests and members are all encouraged to come welcome Victor Heller back to West Palm Beach, enjoy his slides and learn about this vital program of the G&FWF Commission. The meeting takes place at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, the 1st, at West Palm Beach Garden Club Center in Dreher Park.

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 7:30 A.M. - Hypoluxo Island. Park at marina on southwest side of Lantana Bridge.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 7:30 A.M. - Peacock Pond, Wellington. Meet at Publix Shopping Center near corner of Forest Hill Blvd. and South Shore Drive.

FALL BIRD COUNT - SATURDAY, OCT. 19
Contact your team leader.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Treasure Coast Audubon Wildlife Hospital, Stuart. Limited to 25 people. You must call Dorothy Brindle, 586-6797 (Mon-Fri, 4-9 p.m.) for reservations and directions.

Miami Bus Trip

The day trip on November 16th to find exotic species and see some of the places the Miami Chapter frequents is now a GO! Send in your check for \$15, made out to Audubon Society of the Everglades, if you have a reserved seat on the bus. Mail check to Ruth Trumpower, 165 Auburn Drive, Lake Worth 33460. If you want to be put on the waiting list in case of a cancellation, call Dorothy Brindle, 586-6797 (Mon-Fri, 4-9 p.m.) Refunds for cancellations will be given swift priority.

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
FOR FIELD TRIPS

Please take the time to look over the trips I have planned for our Audubon season. You will notice I have listed no names for leaders. If you have never led a trip before, now is your chance! If you are a veteran, you realize how much our Chapter depends on YOU! So pick out the trip you want to lead and give Dorothy Brindle a call at 586-6797 (Mon-Fri, 4-9 p.m.). (Sylvia Guadagnoli, Field Trip Chairman)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

October 7 thru 14 is National Coast Week. All over the U.S. there will be proclamations, celebrations and events extolling the virtues of the coast. Sunbathers, swimmers, boaters, sport and commercial fishermen benefit from the coast. Just sitting on a bench or chair listening to the waves on the shore creates a tranquil mood of relaxation. Our Audubon Adventures Clubs will study the coast and our traveling exhibit will visually tell the story.

This writer has been appointed by County Commissioner Karen Marcus to a committee for beach acquisition (and subsequently was elected chairperson). Hopefully Auduboners will help spread the word.... we need public beaches. There are 46 miles of coast in Palm Beach County. Of that, only 10 miles are in public ownership; of that only 6 miles have unrestricted access. This may be our last chance to purchase beachfront - the beach purchase referendum needs our support.

Larry Thompson, NAS representative in Florida, underwent 16 hours of surgery on September 6th to remove a non-malignant tumor. Additional surgery was necessary later. We are told that the prognosis is good and we wish Larry a speedy and full recovery.

September 12 found us at the Water Management District supporting staff recommendations to deny the request of River Trails, Inc. to use District right-of-way for boat docks and a launching facility at its development on the C-18 Canal. Permit request was denied.

A new children's TV program, OWL, is being produced by NAS for viewing on PBS. Please write the Program Manager of Channel 42-WHRS, 505 S. Congress Avenue, Boynton Beach 33435 and of Channel 2-WPTV, P. O. Box 2, Miami 33161, expressing your desire that they carry the show.

Did you receive your copy of ASE's Classified Ads? Even more important - did you respond to one? Your help is needed to make the Society run efficiently and effectively. The new 1985-86 program brochure was enclosed in the ad sheet. If you did not receive them, leave a message on the Audubon phone, 844-4992, and we'll mail them to you. Also, those who will distribute brochures to Chambers of Commerce, libraries, condominium recreation rooms and similar appropriate spots, may pick up the brochures at the October meeting.

If you are traveling in the Deland area between October 31 and November 17, you may wish to visit the "Florida's Hidden Heritage"

collection of birds-in-their-natural-habitat paintings by National Geographic artist Diane Pierce. It will be held at the Deland Museum of Art, 449 E. New York Avenue; is open from 10-4 Mon-Sat. and 1-4 Sunday; admission is \$1 for non-members.

The Board of Directors has passed two resolutions - one urging the Community Redevelopment Agency of Boynton Beach to use native plants in its landscape plan, and the other supporting the Palm Beach County Commission's proposed bond issue for beach acquisition. The Board also voted to "jump in" the Casetta pond issue - a wetland pond on Singer Island which needs preserving. (Leah Schad)

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Thanks to the Audubon Classifieds, we now have Mrs. Lois Marcello to serve as our courier to take educational materials to various schools, especially those having Audubon Adventures Clubs. If you have AUDUBON and other nature magazines you would like to contribute for use by the students, please call her at 439-7866 to make arrangements to get such material into her hands. (Sylvia Dunnam)

TOURS

Wildlife and natural history tours are becoming more and more popular.

Florida Audubon has an impressive list of trips in the fall issue of THE NATURALIST. For those not wishing to tear out the coupon or need one for a friend, extra brochures will be available at the October 1st meeting.

National Audubon's catalog is equally impressive (you should have it by now). And for every member recruited by our chapter, we get a commission.

Florida Conservation Foundation will also be conducting a number of birding/environmental tours. Brochures will be available at the October meeting.

THE AUDUBON COLLECTION

ASE's Library Committee appreciates the donations of ornithological volumes. We extend our thanks to the following for their generosity: Col. J.R. Hughes, Anita Gardner, Carleen Kasmin and Anne and Mark Ginsburg.

The Audubon Ornithological Collection at the Palm Beach County Public Library on Summit Blvd. has also added the following books:
"Bird Migration" by R. Robin Baker
"Owls of the World" by John Burton, and
"Sixth Edition of the A.O.U. Checklist of North American Birds." (Victor Muller)

HIDES OF ZULULAND

A hide in South Africa is a hut built over a jungle water hole where a silent observer can watch all the various animal citizens come for breakfast or their morning snort.

We drove to Zululand, some 300 km north of

Durban, to stay at delightful Ghost Mountain Motel near the game preserve of Mkusi. Roads within the sanctuary are rough, and it is strictly forbidden to leave your vehicle. Nsumu Pan is a picnic area of serious boundaries, with signs warning not to stray because of hippos and crocodiles.

A short path leads to Msinga Hide, which is approached through a manmade "tunnel" and a covered bridge going out to the "hide" building. It is a shed about 20' x 35' with a continuous observation port. Absolute silence is demanded and enforced.

We arrived about 7 a.m. and the panorama of animals began like an orchestrated theatrical production. It started with wart hogs taking their leisurely and thorough mud baths. Then came herds of wildebeest. They were soon joined by nyala, kudu, impala and zebra. There was a constant coming and going of these animals.

We saw wading birds such as hamerkop and gray heron. A crocodile lay like an alligator and oozed toward the heron. Just as it reached striking distance, the heron would move. This little game went on and on during the morning.

A large family of baboons bounced into view. There was one big daddy, and he was "more equal" than all the rest. Two or three mamas sat near him ready to do his slightest desire. Teenagers romped about playing tag and rough and tumble. There was even a baby-sitter with four little toddlers.

At last we saw big heads above the tree tops. The giraffes had arrived. They were cautious indeed. It took an hour for them to reach the water's edge. Of the five animals, only one drank at a time. The contortions and effort they made to lower their heads to water level were excruciating!

A constant stream of birds came to the water and bushes around it. We saw malachite kingfishers, emerald-spotted doves, fire finches, waxbills, and a beautiful displaying purple-crested lourie.

The magic of a Zulu hide makes six hours last only six minutes. (Hank McCall)

WETLANDS PRESERVATION

By a vote of 17 to 1, the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council chose to go back to a hearing officer regarding the Fox property, located between Royal Palm Beach and the Water Catchment Area north of Okeechobee Blvd.

This decision was reached after lengthy statements between the Council attorney, Roger Saberson, and the developer's attorney, Jon Moyle. At issue are more than 1,050 acres of prime wetlands in the 1,705 acre site.

In 1978, the Governor and Cabinet told the developer he could build his "city" but numerous conditions must be met, including preservation of 338 acres of wetlands. But, alas, this is 1985!

We have a wetlands bill. We obviously have an agency committed to wetlands preservation. We have the City of West Palm Beach

concerned about its water supply and, last but not least, we have three County Commissioners - Marcus, Owens and Wilken - all members of the Planning Council, who voted to preserve the area. We, too, shall vote to intervene at the October 1st meeting. (Leah Schad)

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Juno Beach: Shirley Floyd

Jupiter: Ms. Day P. Bachman, Mardee Boone, Paulette R. Clark, Mrs. Donna M. Graves, Dorothy Lamberton, Ms. Joanne Ohlaber, Mary L. Robbins, T. Verner

Lake Park: Roger W. Decker, Janice M. Geus, Mrs. Charles T. Sheldon, Nila Wilbur and Ron Frendreis

Lake Worth: P. L. Biederstadt, Miss Nancy E. Booth, Walter H. Burkhardt, Jean Burnett, Mary A. Chism, Greg Davis, J. Freire, Ms. Michelle Gaudet, Nellie Gieryk, Betty L. Grover, Richard F. Howe, Eugene A. Huhn, S. Jinks, Elizabeth Kepke, William B. MacGowan, Mrs. Janis Mann, Leila Miller, Robert G. Moberly, Dr. Mark Poston, S. Y. Rothfarb, Eric Sorensen, Mrs. Wanda F. Southwick, Charles C. Thompson, Colin Varnes

Lantana: Frances Butler, Wendy Danforth, Belinda Kenyon, Russell T. Miller, Don Rose, T. Royal, Janet Setchell

Loxahatchee: R. C. Mellette, Jr., Mrs. Anita Heath Smedley

North Palm Beach: Jon Begin, Meg Crawford, Ed Jennings, George Navas

Palm Beach: F. O. Butler II, J. Dower, Michael Kambara, Monette Marrow, William C. Paddock

Palm Beach Gardens: Mrs. F. W. Cunningham, Peggy S. Kennedy

Riviera Beach: Skellem T. Lee, Jr.

Tequesta: William Gifford, Col. Gerald H. Mathews, Mrs. Elizabeth P. McGinn, J. Upshur Moorhead, Dee F. Pendley

West Palm Beach: Miss Eugenia Bedell, J. Bennett, E. Boryeske, Bruce L. Brown, MD, Maureen Caird, M. Crawford, C. Dunn, Bernard Evans, Kathy Powell Groves, James R. Johnson, Miss Carole A. Jordan, Ms. Marian McCarley, Karen McKenly, Georgette McPhee, George H. Mercer, Marvin Meyer, Ms. Samantha Mitchell, Thomas Myers, Mrs. Sylvia A. Nielsen, Julia Norton, Dr. John T. Oswald, Anthony Pucillo, Robert Roscher, Mary Jo Schroeder, Miss Joan Seal, K. Shafer, D. A. Stephens, D. Taylor, Sandi Teichman, M. Vancamp

KITE STRINGS

The Florida Conservation Foundation is sponsoring a one-day conference on December 14 at Reitz Union, University of Florida, on "A Comprehensive System for Preserving Wildlife Habitats." For registration forms or additional information, write the Foundation at 1203 Orange Avenue, Winter Park 32789.

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Pine Jog courses - call 686-6600 if you need information on any of the following, and register early.

Tropical Travels, Thursdays, October 3, 10,

17, 24; 7:30-9:30 p.m., \$15 for series or \$4 per lecture.

Beginning Nature Photography, Wednesdays, October 9, 16, 23, 30; 7:30-9:30 p.m.; \$25.

Snakes Alive!!, Tuesdays, October 15, 22 (lectures), 19, 26 (field trips), \$15.

And many more scheduled from November on - ask Pine Jog for brochure.

FAS CONVENTION

The Florida Audubon Society will hold its annual convention November 8-10 at Wekiva Springs State Park. If you are interested in staying in the cabins (dormitory style) at the park, get your reservation in early, as space is limited. The cost with accommodation and meals is \$65 per person; without sleeping facilities it is \$60 per person. For those wishing motel rooms, there is a Quality Inn at Longwood and a Ramada Inn at Altamonte Springs. Hope to see you there. (Leah Schad)

ANNUAL REPORT - EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- Spring 1984 - 1. Area schools visited by S.O.A.R.'s Doris Mager and birds of prey
2. Science Fair judging and awards
- Summer 1984 - 1. Planning for Audubon Adventures Clubs in five area schools.
2. Contact with Jill Jarboe of Pine Jog to purchase tapes and song book of her original songs.
3. Corbett Area: one scholarship recipient - James Gee of Barton Elementary.
- Fall 1984 - 1. Initial contacts re John James Audubon's birthday anniversary.
2. Booking of Doris Mager for Dec.
3. Meeting with Audubon Adventures Clubs teacher sponsors.
- Spring 1984 - 1. Approval of Art/Essay Contests for J. J. Audubon anniversary.
2. Area schools participated during March and April; awards presented at ASE annual meeting.
3. Science Fair - awards presented at ASE annual meeting.
4. Doris Mager and "Clem & Jethro" (wolf) programs scheduled in area schools in April.
5. Selection of ten more Audubon Adventures Clubs sponsors for 1985-86 school year.
(Sylvia Dunnam and Dale Neuenschwander, Co chairmen)

AUDUBON SOCIETY of the EVERGLADES

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