



EVERGLADE KITE

AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

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Ruth Trumpower, Editor

DECEMBER 1985

PROGRAM FEATURES SPEAKER AND FILM

Colonel Charles T. Myers, III, Commander and District Engineer of the Jacksonville District, Army Corps of Engineers, will be the guest speaker for ASE's December 3rd meeting.

Col. Myers is responsible for the federal development of water resources in Florida east of the Aucilla River, all of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. His topic will be "After-the-Fact Permits and the Corps Regulatory System."

Also on the program will be a film entitled "At the Crossroads," which deals with the effects of the pesticide DDT on birds. This focuses on an environmental problem thought to be abating, but now in danger of rising again.

Hope to see you and your friends on Tuesday, December 3, at 7:30 p.m. at the West Palm Beach Garden Club Center, Dreher Park. (Donna Dietz)

DECEMBER FIELD TRIP

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 7:30 A.M. Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge. Meet at Marsh Trail parking lot. Ann and Phil Weinrich will be our leaders.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 - Team members should con-

tact their leaders. Anyone who has participated in previous counts but is not assigned to a team may contact Howard Langridge, 582-7519, if wishing to help on the 21st. Compilation will be held that evening at the Bonanza Restaurant, 1029 Congress Avenue, Palm Springs, at 6:30 p.m. (Sylvia Guadagnoli)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

If we counted correctly, ten members of ASE attended the Florida Audubon Society Annual Convention at Wekiwa Springs State Park (see Chuck Potter's report on page 2). Of interest to many of you is that Larry Thompson was well enough to attend. Larry is making a remarkable recovery from extensive surgery. In the true spirit of Auduboners, he is determined to forge ahead with courage and grit!

We recently reported that ASE would get involved in the Casetta Pond issue in Riviera Beach. On November 18th the Corps of Engineers held a public hearing in the Riviera Beach Council Chambers. René Hamil and Maxine Wyatt, the two ladies who requested our help, orchestrated an outstanding array of speakers, all of whom did their homework - and did it well. It will be several months before we know if this thrice-denied application will be permanently put to rest on this fourth attempt.

Meanwhile, back at the 4th District Court of Appeals, we await that tribunal's decision on the proposed Boynton Bridge. On November 19th, this writer received a copy of a letter from Boynton Councilman James Warnke to Ocean Ridge Mayor Jon Shudlick in which Warnke indicates he no longer supports the bridge or the proposed marina planned for the mangrove area, which we are also trying to save.

National Audubon has produced a new booklet, "An Environmental Agenda for the Future." Staff members from NAS and 22 other organizations developed the concepts of the booklet. Individual copies are available from Island Press, Suite 300-T, 1718 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, DC 20009, for \$5.95 plus \$1.00 postage and handling.

Florida Power & Light is again scheduling Manatee Awareness Workshops which are free and open to the public. Classes closest to us are: Ft. Lauderdale/South East District Office, on December 4th, and Miami/Museum of Science, on January 13th. All start at 7:30 p.m. For further information, call FPL's Environmental Affairs Dept., 863-3646. We have been advised that no session is scheduled for Riviera Beach due to a poor turnout last year. If enough folks here want a workshop, you need to call and let them know.

The Loxahatchee Refuge Visitors Center is now on its winter schedule - open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; weekends 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. At the December 3rd meeting we will have brochures of upcoming events at the Center, or you may call 734-8303 to request a copy.

Ticket sales for the benefit of the Southeast National Audubon Office coordinated by Alice Wainwright are going well, but we still need your help. If you are unable to promote tickets, won't you consider the donation via the ticket in the recent FLORIDA NATURALIST? It's tax deductible!

Several words about beaches. It was great news to learn of the Governor and Cabinet approval for state purchase of the 3½ acre parcel adjacent to Coral Cove Park in Tequesta. We would urge you to read the inside front cover of the latest NATURALIST - it's about beaches too! And finally, let's hope that the parcels considered for county purchase had the bond issue passed will still be available next year.

A new booklet is available from the Corps of Engineers entitled "Water Resources Development in Florida 1985." A must if you want to keep up with them. Write P. O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, FL 32232 if you wish a copy.

The U.S. House recently voted 357-60 against a \$2 billion water projects bill. The good news is that deauthorization of the Cross Florida Barge Canal was part of that bill. The bad news is that the canal isn't dead yet, according to Marjorie Carr, Florida's leading spokesperson on the canal. What the bill does: (1) Deauthorizes the uncompleted section of the canal between the Eureka Lock & Dam and the Inglis Lock, i.e. the upper Oklawaha River and the Summit Reach; (2) Establishes a Cross Florida National Conservation Area, consisting of all lands and waters now held for the Barge Canal; (3) Requires the Corps of Engineers

(COE) to develop and transmit to Congress within one year a comprehensive management plan for the entire conservation area. The COE would continue to manage the lands and facilities at least until the management plan was transmitted to Congress;

(4) Preserves and maintains all completed canal sections and structures under control of COE; (5) Requires federal government to pay \$32 million for the canal lands now held by the state, these lands to be transferred to the COE; (6) Repay, with the \$32 million, the canal counties on a pro-rata basis for their contributions toward purchasing the canal right-of-way.

What the bill doesn't do is give complete protection/preservation to the Oklawaha River due to continued operation of the Rodman Dam. Future attempts to complete the canal remain a real possibility. What all this says is - stay awake and stay vigilant. It's only a minor victory - we still need to win the war!

Our treasurer, Terry Palmer, has resigned effective December 1. Terry and his wife, Gale, will be moving to Deland. Naturally we are sorry to see them go, but wish them well in their new surroundings. We are very fortunate to have Don Braender step in until the annual meeting. (Leah Schad)

HOME-BAKED GOODIES WANTED

- for the December meeting -

Call Barbara Liberman, 965-2090, after 5 p.

MAGAZINES TO DONATE?

If you have any AUDUBON, FLORIDA NATURALIST or other environmental awareness magazines that you wish to contribute to the Audubon Adventures Clubs, please contact Lois Marcello, 439-7866.

Our deepest thanks to Ann Stelter for donating a 10 years' supply of Ranger Rick magazines and National Geographic World. They are being devoured by children in the Audubon Clubs. I know my club could hardly wait to get their hands on them - and this includes the teacher. (Sylvia Dunnam)

FAS CONVENTION NOTES

Wekiwa Springs State Park, an Auduboner's delight, was the locale for the FAS Annual Convention and they came from all over. Day One had Pat Harden telling of their battle to preserve some of the Wekiva River ecosystem... dinner then an owling trip. Day Two - Early Bird walk at 6:30 a.m. An excellent Environmental Education program followed, with a very knowledgeable panel, including our own Dale Neuenschwander. Chapter Business Affairs were discussed in detail and this session for chapter officers concluded with a discussion on Society insurance. Leah moderated both pan .

The first part of the FAS Board meeting started at 9:30 a.m., the same time that a Breeding Bird Census Mini-workshop commenced with H. Kale and W. Briggs. Meanwhile, Susan and Vicki of the FAS office had set up a

tempting display of T-shirts, books, carvings, etc., to attract our dollars to help Audubon activities go forward.

The 10:30 annual membership meeting, with its election of directors and a stirring address by FAS President Dr. Bernie Yokel, lasted until lunch time, whereupon we were treated to an interesting talk, "Outstanding Florida Waters," by DER Secretary Victoria Tschinkel. Concurrent with the afternoon session of the FAS Board were programs and talks by the Rock Springs Run State Preserve director and Alvah Sanborn, Audubon adventurer, artist and author.

The highlight of the FAS Board meeting was the election of ASE President Leah Schad to the chairmanship of the Florida Audubon Society.

The Awards Dinner included a speech by Florida Cabinet Member Bill Gunter on "Florida's Aquatic Preserves: A View From The Cabinet." Day Tree, Sunday, started with a bird walk and finished with a field trip of your choice. (Chuck Potter)

FAS ANNUAL AWARDS

Since a number of the award winners are well known to ASE members, we thought we'd let you know about them. Many of you read the MIAMI HERALD to learn that Editorial Writer Martha Musgrove received the Outstanding Journalist Award.

The Conservationist of the Year Award (private sector) went to former ASE member Bill Lund of Jupiter. Lund earned the title "Father of the Loxahatchee" years ago when he began a mighty effort to save the river and have it designated Wild & Scenic by the U.S. Dept. of the Interior. The river dedication will take place on December 14th, culminating many years of hard work.

Lt. Ernie Kern was presented the Allan D. Cruickshank Award for his dedication to working with young people and teaching about wildlife and its place in our world. Kern is with the Everglades Region of the Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission and took a cut in pay (at his request) last year to become director of the Youth Camp at the J.W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area.

Mike Slayton, supervisory biologist in the Miami office of COE, received a Certificate of Recognition for his outstanding efforts in protecting Florida's wetlands. A Special Conservation Award was given to John C. Jones, executive director of the Florida Wildlife Federation. Over the years, the work that Johnny has done on protecting the Everglades, the Save Our Rivers program, Big Cypress acquisition, establishing the C.A.R.L. program, and many other excellent environmental issues should be recognized.

Other recipients included Estus Whitfield, Conservationist of the Year (government); Karsten Rist, Chairman's Award; Lenore McCullagh, Polly Redford Award; Rep. Sam Bell and Sen. George Stuart, Legislative Excellence; The Wilson Company, Outstanding Corporation; Dr. Robert Hess, Special Conservation Award; Ocala-Marion County Chamber of Commerce, Spec-

ial Commendation; Jerry Gerde, Special Service to FAS; Manatee County Audubon, Stamp Contest Award, and Peace River Audubon and Bill Cooms, Outstanding Chapter and President of the Year.

NATURE TRAIL NEWS

Guided Nature Trail walks will begin on the first Saturday in January, the 4th, and continue through March.

There will be a leader orientation meeting on Saturday, December 7th, at 9 a.m. Meet in area by Campground Office, Trail D, Bulletin Board. We need leaders and assistant leaders; we have some but need more help. Even if you don't know too much about birds, trees, plants, etc., we need your support. Call Louise Morgan, 585-0496, or Ruth Trumpower, 585-3968.

Another big thank you to Forrest Haynes and Lydia Johnson, who cleaned up the Marsh area of cans, bottles, paper, etc. Forrest had sections of pipe, at the end of which he had a wire basket and a hook. I was there and watched. It was really something to see. All I needed was a camera. (Louise Morgan)

LOCAL AUTHOR WILL AUTOGRAPH BIRD BOOK

Tom McElroy, our own well-known author and member of ASE's Board, will be autographing his "New Handbook of Attracting Birds" at ASE's December 3rd meeting. First published some years ago, the book has undergone some revision and is now published for the first time in paperback.

Tom will be at a table near the Sales Table and will autograph his book for anyone purchasing same. The price is \$8.95 plus tax and will make a wonderful gift if you already have the original hardback copy.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Juno Beach: Martha J. Bargoan, Merwin Hill

Jupiter: Brenda Cate, Marianne Daly, Bonnie Moore, R. L. Pase

Lake Worth: Eric D. Diehl, Lee M. Disbury, Thomas E. Martin, Carole Morey, Thomas B. Owens, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Perkins, Paula Taboigh, Tadziu Trotsky

Lantana: Henry C. Beyer, Concetta Chuhay, M. Culp, Bill Graham, Carla Wells

Loxahatchee: Robert Fratus

North Palm Beach: L.K. MacFarland, Bruce Wiita

Palm Beach: Mrs. Earl E.T. Smith, Josephine & Ben Walton, Jr.

Palm Beach Gardens: Whilden S. Parker

Riviera Beach: Glen Edwards, Mrs. George Helm, Mr. & Mrs. R.H. Kirkpatrick, Gisele Vermeire

Royal Palm Beach: Pamela Goldberg

Tequesta: Merle Harn, Mrs. Mary Jane Sweet

West Palm Beach: Ruth Gottdiener, Mrs. Jura Hill, E. Kamka, Dr. C.E. Pavlik, R.A. Slechta, Mrs. Theodore D. Starr, Julie Wright

Out-of-state: Emmalee B. Tarry, Boston, MA;

Sean Noonan, Lakewood, CO.

CONSERVATION REPORT

The same motivation that inspired Nat Reed's eloquent appeal to COE at the Casetta Pond hearing - that he is depending on the Corps to perform as charged and protect our wetlands - is compelling me to ask you to write or call Senators Chiles and Hawkins. Urge them NOT to support the appointment of Robert Dawson as Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works. He has a history of weakening wetland regulations. He must have had Florida developers in mind when he claimed Section 404, Clean Water Act, should not protect isolated or seasonal wetlands. When all is said and done, that is mostly just what we have. If this appointment comes to pass, I just may retire.

Senator Lawton M. Chiles, 250 Russell Senate Office Bldg., 202/244-5274, and Senator Paula Hawkins, 313 Hart Senate Office Bldg., 202.224-3041, both Washington, DC 20510.

Once more it is impressed on us that the meek need a lot of help to inherit just a little bit of this earth. The Key deer have joined the

ranks of those native species that are on a sad countdown. Write to William P. Horn, Asst. Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Dept. of the Interior, 18th & C Street N.W., Washington, DC 20240. It took 17 years and a terrible toll on the deer for a study conclusion. No Name Key and Johnson/Little Pine Key must be managed for the deer and the habitat restored. Also the acquisition of and limited access to north Big Torch Key must be accomplished. This is a very urgent request and should be acted upon quickly.

Locally, the Citizens Task Force is working on a Landscape Ordinance, to be followed by a Tree Ordinance. Even as this is being done, I see a thousand cumulative years worth of cypress go down every couple of weeks in just my neighborhood. Nevertheless, we are ahead of Walton County. They would allow construction of a 20 story, 200 unit condo without any plantings required.

NEXT CONSERVATION MEETING -
Wednesday, December 11, 7:30 p.m.,
at the home of Ruth Trumpower, 161
Auburn Drive, Lake Worth. Call 585-
3968 if directions are needed.
(Cissy Durando)

AUDUBON SOCIETY of the EVERGLADES

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