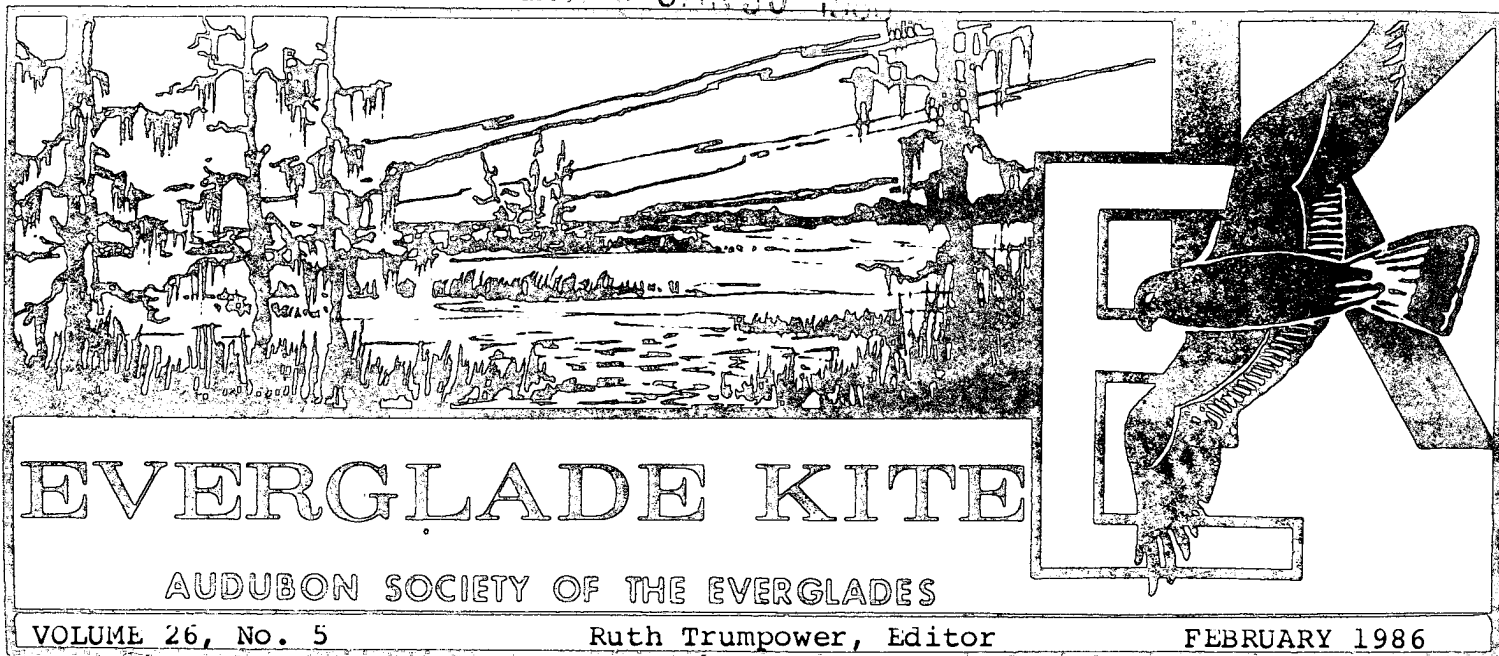


CENTRAL JAN 30 1986



# EVERGLADE KITE

AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

VOLUME 26, No. 5

Ruth Trumpower, Editor

FEBRUARY 1986

## UPPER AMAZON NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY FEATURED

Photographer Claudine Laabs will present a slide program highlighting an "Upper Amazon Nature Trip" at the February 4th ASE Meeting.

Audubon members will recall her "Birds of Mrazek Pond" origram presented three years ago. She is known also for her 1984 presentation "The Everglades" at Fairchild Gardens and her 1982 exhibition at the Science Museum of Palm Beach County on "Wading Birds of the Everglades." The subjects of her works are not limited to the environment. Mrs. Laabs has numerous exhibitions, publications, commissions and lectures to her credit.

Do join us Tuesday, February 4th, to enjoy the photographs of this fine local artist. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. at the West Palm Beach Garden Club Center in Dreher Park.

(Donna Deitz)

## FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 7:30 a.m. - John Prince Park. Meet at east end parking lot of Square Lake. Inquire at Campground Office if directions needed. Dorothy Brindle, leader.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20 - Metro Zoo all-day bus trip. Bus has two seats left. Call Dorothy Brindle, 686-6797

(weekdays between 4-9 a.m.) for reservations. If you have a confirmed seat, send your check for \$20 (before 3/10), made out to Audubon Society of the Everglades, to Ruth Trumpower, 165 Auburn Drive, Lake Worth 33460. Details in next KITE.

## February 22-23 Bus Trip

The overnight bus trip to Everglades National Park is filled, with two on the waiting list. In case of last minute cancellations, you might make it, so call Dorothy Brindle (see above) to get on waiting list. Checks are due before February 10th. (see January KITE for amounts)

The bus will be at Dreher Park at 6:45 a.m. Saturday, the 22nd. Have marked coolers with two lunches, one breakfast. Take on board everything you will need during that day except coolers and overnight luggage, which will be stored in baggage compartment. Bring cover for sitting on grass.

The Saturday night banquet will be casual dress. Sunday the bus will be loading at 6:15 a.m. for a trip to Eco Pond. Bring coolers. We will stop for ice about 9 a.m. The bus will load at 10:45 a.m. at the motel and depart at 11 a.m. for our return.

There will be a pickup point about 7:15 a.m. Saturday at I-95 and Lantana Road behind Publix for the south county people. (Sylvia Guadagnoli)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

We have begun the New Year at full speed after shifting into low gear during the holidays.

Chuch Potter, Cissy Durando and myself have been involved in a number of meetings and conferences (see reports elsewhere), with many more coming up.

Those of you who have tickets to sell for Alice Wainwright's Southeast Audubon office, please remember the drawing takes place Friday, February 14th, at a Valentine reception scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at the Doc Thomas House, 5530 Sunset Drive, South Miami. The event is open to everyone. We hope ASE members will make a special effort through ticket donations to show support for Alice and the work she does on our behalf.

We were saddened to learn that our good friend, Jean Takakawa, wildlife biologist at Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, leaves on February 15th for her new assignment at San Francisco National Wildlife Refuge, Newark, CA. Jean has always been helpful and cooperative with us individually and as a group. We wish her the very best as she seeks new frontiers to explore - it sounds exciting. We shall miss her; our loss is California's gain.

We hope every Auduboner remembers to watch "Wild America" on Channel 42-WXEL at seven o'clock Saturday evenings. We began sponsorship of this fine series, produced by Manley Stouffer, on January 18th.

For some reason it seems we failed to mention that Attorney Esther Zarelsky responded to our request to do a history of ASE. She is in the process of going through many documents, as well as talking with some folks who were involved in the early days of the chapter. We are grateful to her for taking on this assignment.

Noted wildlife artist Ray Harm will be the guest speaker Wednesday, February 5th, at 1 p.m. at the Visitors Center, Loxahatchee Refuge. In addition, he will be honored at a reception at The Cottage Door in Delray Beach on Thursday, the 6th, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Harm is co-founder of the limited edition print industry. During the past 20 years he has helped many conservation organizations with fund raising, including Florida's Corkscrew Swamp. He has appeared on national television, authored two books and written a newspaper column on nature. (This writer was privileged to observe his original paintings many years ago when he exhibited in Palm Beach.) If you plan to attend, please call the Refuge, 734-8303, for reservations.  
(Leah Schad)

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

The long list of exciting birds that we recorded this year should have put us well over 150 species instead of just 150 species even, but the absence of five entire parties who regularly participate hampered our efforts and we missed some easy-to-spot species: White-winged Dove, Burrowing Owl, Chuck-will's-widow, Scrub Jay, Northern Parula, Spotted Oriole and Chipping Sparrow.

By far our best bird for the 1985 CBC was

the COUCH'S KINGBIRD at the Loxahatchee Refuge reported by Paul Sykes and Joyce Kleen. It was first found, heard and identified by Robert Flores at Loxahatchee on 6 Dec. and subsequently seen by many and heard by at least six observers. Although there have been at least nine previous records of this species in Florida, this is the first bird that was heard calling. In addition, this sighting is the first winter record for Florida. Congratulations to Robert Flores.

Our second best bird was the adult MASKED BOOBY seen at the Lake Worth Pier by Gloria Hunter, Frank Christian and Pat Canning. This is our first winter sighting in the county and, of course, our first CBC observation.

Another bird new for our CBC list was an adult GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL which was seen from the Lake Worth Pier by Frank Christian.

We reported, for only the second time in 28 years, JAEGERs by Gloria Hunter, Carolyn and Frank Christian, Pat Canning, Tadziu Trotsky, Dan Lipman and Keith Rott, and the SUMMER Tanager by Hank McCall and Cecil Kilmer.

We reported, for only the third time, BLUE GROSBEAK by HPL, William Bolte and Charles Ayres, the WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW by HPL; for only the fourth time, BLACK SCOTERS by the hunter and Trotsky parties, and two BALD EAGLES by two different parties.

Observers taking part were Ralph Audrieth, Charles Ayres, William Bolte, Dorothy Brindle, Ed Campbell, Pat Canning, Carolyn & Frank Christian, Dorothy Glifford, Jim Doty, Wally George, Anne & Mark Ginsberg, Sylvia Guadagnoli, Bill Hartranft, Theodore Hendrickson, Brian Hope, Gloria Hunter, Cecil Kilmer, Joyce Kleen, H.P. Langridge, Dan Lipman, Pete Matwiczky, Hank & Irma McCall, Victor Muller, Cynthia & Ray Plockelman, Keith Rott, Joseph Suchecki, Paul Sykes, John & Jean Thomas, Tadziu Trotsky, R. Trumpower.  
(H.P. Langridge)

PHOTOS NEEDED FOR NEW  
ATTRACTING BIRDS BOOK

Cynthia Plockelman and Tom McElroy have been appointed to a committee working with the Palm Beach County Soil and Water Conservation District to put out an "attracting birds to your backyard" booklet for the South Florida area.

Photographs of birds feeding on berries, seeds, etc. on area plants, nesting in trees or shrubs, or just pictures of food plants themselves are needed. Hopefully some of our Audubon photographers can supply some of these.

If you have photos you think suitable, please contact Cynthia, 585-1278 (after 5 p.m.), or call Celeste Botha at the S&WC office, 433-8808, during the day.

SOUTHEASTERN COALITION NEWS

Amid the hustle and bustle of the Ft. Lauderdale area, right off SR.84, is a green oasis called "Secret Woods." In this woodsy setting the representatives of the six southeast Florida Audubon chapters in the coalition met on January 7th with Alice Wainwright, Nat Reed, Charles Lee

and others to work on problems of mutual interest to Auduboners.

Maureen Finnerty, Assistant Superintendent of Everglades National Park, said the court upheld their ban on commercial fishing in the park and also the removal of some of the trespassing camps in the Big Cypress.

NAS Director Nat Reed reported a high but reachable NAS budget and progress by NAS and President Peter Berle toward better standards and chapter relations.

FAS Vice President Charles Lee reported little progress on repealing the Marketable Record Title Act. It needs our help to change the mind of Senator Fox and others. Lee listed the bottle bill, standing on DRIs, and coastal and growth issues as demanding our attention if we expect good results for our environment.

Alice reminded us that sales of tickets (donations) to support Audubon's southeast office were not going as well as hoped. Each chapter reported on its work and all are busy. Also a project to more efficiently control the flow of water into the Everglades from the conservation areas, in order to provide a more even distribution to the park, was explained. (Chuck Potter)

#### NATURE TRAIL NEWS

Sixty-five, forty-five, thirty-five - these were the head counts for the first three January guided nature walks. Plus a group of 40 children whose leaders were well pleased.

It pays to advertise - and we deeply appreciate the Sun Sentinel's coverage on January 5th and the "Thursday" paper on the 9th. Many thanks to our good, knowledgeable leaders and all those who have helped me coordinate these walks.

The walks will continue through March - each Saturday at 9 a.m. starting at D Trail opposite the Campground Office. Trail maintenance helpers will be welcome at the 9 a.m. every-Thursday workday. For more information, call me at 585-0496. (Louise Morgan)

#### KITE STRINGS

Program Chairman Donna Deitz says some one left a "Save Our Everglades" poster on Ken Morrison's table at the January meeting. She will bring it to the February 4th meeting, so the owner can check with her then.

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FOR SALE - QUESTAR FIELD MODEL TELESCOPE with carea adaptors for Leicaflex, Pentax, Contarex and Cannon; and 40-80X and 80-160 Eyepieces. Excellent condition. Value over \$2,000.00. Price: \$1,350.00. Contact Sid Leibowitz, 793-2721.

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Pine Jog provides innovative educational programs to elementary school age children and you can help! If you enjoy children, if you want to learn more about your environment and if you are willing to communicate joy in and respect for the natural world, you are needed.

Beginning in February, Pine Jog will initiate its first volunteer training program.

For further information, contact Susan Toth or Pat Welch at Pine Jog Environmental Sciences center, 6301 Summit Blvd., W.P.B., 686-6600.

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#### CONSERVATION REPORT

Our state legislative delegation seems to be traveling the county just begging for input. On February 12th they will be at Palm Beach Gardens City Hall and on February 19th at the County Commission Chambers, both at 7:00 p.m. The determined can confront the delegation then or you can call or write your legislators at their local offices. Here is a conservation wish list:

1. Address the MRTA issue. The fears they hear from phosphate, real estate and agribusiness interests are unfounded. We need the reform to hang on to still-submerged lands as sovereign lands of the State.

2. Re-examine the coastal problems. Beach renourishment is not the cure-all or the end-all for erosion. It is a fact of life and cannot be halted - given inlets, requests for deepening same, groins, bulkheads, destruction of dunes, improperly placed buildings, lining the shore with Australian pines, and on and on. We must face the fact that the taxpayer would be obligated for continually escalating costs to add sand.

I believe the excuse, "it's for the tourists," is exaggerated. More often than not, the bodies on the beach are limited by the finite parking (and cost of) situation rather than by the space on the sand. It would be sad to jeopardize our unique rock and coral reefs and denizens thereof here in South Florida for the benefit of the real estate industry. Dredging inlets can be used to feed the beaches. Sand transfer stations working properly can feed the beaches, and Mother Nature will also do her part, given a chance.

After you jot down a few thoughts on this topic for your legislators, go that extra bit and mail a copy to Dr. Elton Gissendanner, Dept. of Natural Resources, 3900 Commonwealth Blvd., Tallahassee 32303; to Secretary Vicki Tschinkel, Dept. of Environmental Regulation, 2600 Blairstone Rd., Tallahassee 32301, and to Steve Fox, also at DER.

3. Let us end the Toll Road Authority. The vague plans of opening up the mid-west regions of our soggy interior (from SR.7 to 20 Mile Bend and the W.P.B. Water Catchment Area) will suddenly appear, all drawn to scale, and we will have lost our political clout. This Authority and DOT are very cavalier when pressed on infrastructure issues (storm water, outfalls, water quality, transportation, waste disposal, fire protection, sheriff, schools, etc.) for the land laid open to development.

4. Re-state our concern for Lake Okeechobee. All the pollution is not coming from the north (cattle). In extremes of weather, more is being moved from and to the lake from cane fields to the south. So-called Best Management Practices were instituted by the SFWMD several years ago and they are simply not working if they claim the north is the primary source of pollution. Probably would be cheaper for the taxpayer if less land was actually planted in cane and some of their thousands of acres were dedicated to

on-site water retention. Possibly the acute drainage problems of the western Corbett Area, which is adjacent to cane fields, would be mitigated by another type of system.

5. Ask for a re-examination of the mosquito control practices throughout the state. State funding is used, and present research has indicated it is taking a disastrous toll on fish breeding areas (to say nothing of our honey bees). In years to come, a macho mosquito will be the final victor.

6. We need all possible support and pressure for the upgrading of Alligator Alley and an interim protection program for the Florida panther. In 15 years we could have this terrific road and not a single big cat.

7. Bury the temptation to bow to pressure to minimize the importance of addressing the storm water issue. It will be a hollow victory if certain interests overcome good scientific advice from staffs of our various agencies that are there to protect the long-range interests of all the residents of the state. The health of our flora and fauna truly indicates the well-being of us all.

The time is short for one more letter - this time to Lt. O.G. Kelley, Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, 555 N. Military Trail, W.P.B. 33415. There will not be public hearings any more on its regulations, but you may comment. Beg them to restrict off-road vehicles in the Corbett Area (at least as much as they do at present). Do not open up any more of the East Everglades Water Management Area (EEWMA) to hunting. Also, let's go to steel shot. Waterfowl in the EEWMA show high incidence of death from lead injection.

Next Conservation Meeting - Wednesday, Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m., home of Ruth Trumpower, 165 Auburn Drive, Lake Worth. (Cissy Durando)

PRESIDENT'S DESK (cont'd.)

At the January Board meeting, in accordance with our Bylaws, the following committees were appointed: Nominating - Cissy Durando, chair. ., Seymour Miller and Martha Wade. Budget - headed by Treasurer Don Braender, Chuck Potter, Muriel Huxtable and Dale Neuenschwander.

There will be an Environmental Alert Conference from 10 a.m. to noon at the Miami Hyatt Regency, Downtown, on February 11. Panelists include speakers from the Academy of Trial Lawyers, DER and Legal Environmental Assistance Foundation.

Broward County Audubon has scheduled its 3-author luncheon at the Kapok Tree, Ft. Lauderdale, March 15 at 12:30 p.m. There will be an optional nature walk at 11 a.m. and a cash bar at noon. Cost of the luncheon, which consists of appetizer, soup, fruit and salad bar, is \$10 per person. Reservations by check payable to Broward County Audubon Society, P.O. Box 16343, Plantation, FL 33318. Tickets will be held at the door.

Featured writers will be Ken Morrison, "Mountain Lake Almanac"; Georgia Tasker, "Wild Things" and James P. McMullen, "Cry For The Panther." (Leah Schad)

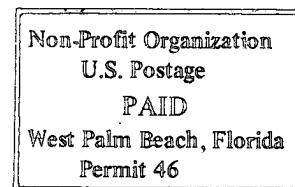
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With nominations coming up, Ye Ed would be happy to relinquish the position of KITE editor if anyone is interested in same. A fresh approach might be appreciated. Contact Nominating Committee Chairman Cissy Durando, 965-2420.

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**AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
**of the EVERGLADES**

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