



EVERGLADE KITE

AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

VOLUME 26, No. 6

Ruth Trumppower, Editor

MARCH 1986

MARCH PROGRAM FEATURES BATS

Robert L. Burns of The Nature Conservancy, along with Sue Cerulean, a member of Bat Conservation International, will present a program about bats at the March 4th Audubon Society of the Everglades meeting.

Mr. Burns, a former Palm Beach Countian, is the Assistant Director for Land Acquisition for the Florida Chapter of the Conservancy. Ms. Cerulean, who works with the nongame program of Florida's Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, will accompany Mr. Burn's talk with slides of

bats and their habitats.

This program was developed from the extensive research into this endangered species prior to The Nature Conservancy's acquisition of the Bat Caves near Marianna in Jackson County.

Join us Tuesday, March 4th, for fascinating insights into this unique species. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the West Palm Beach Garden Club Center in Dreher Park. The Sales Table will be open again this month and brochures will be available at the Information Table. (Donna Deitz)

ANNUAL MEETING & LUNCHEON

Sunday - April 13, 1986 - 12 Noon
(Meeting begins at 1:30 p.m.)

PGA SHERATON RESORT HOTEL
"PGA-1" Banquet Hall
400 Avenue of Champions, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

GUEST SPEAKER - AL BURT
Author and Columnist for
The Miami Herald's Tropic Magazine
"FLORIDA IS MY BEAT"

Details and reservation form on Page 7.

FIELD TRIPS

Loxahatchee Refuge Evening Fly-in, Saturday, March 15, at 5:00 p.m. Meet at the dike. Hal Weidemann will be our leader. He will also lead a walk on the Cypress Swamp Boardwalk near the Visitor Center at 4:00 p.m. for those interested in plants.

Metro Zoo Bus Trip, Thursday, March 20. If you have a confirmed seat for this trip, send your check for \$20, made out to Audubon Society of the Everglades, to Ruth Trumpower, 165 Auburn Dr., Lake Worth 33460. Deadline is March 7. We may have cancellations; call Dorothy Brindle, 586-6797, (Mon-Fri, 4-9 p.m.) to get on the waiting list.

Meet at West Palm Beach Garden Club Center parking lot, Dreher Park, at 7:15 a.m. Bus leaves at 7:30 a.m. Bring a lunch. We will visit the aviary in the morning and after lunch will have time for the rest of the zoo. We'll be back in West Palm Beach about 5:30 p.m.

(Sylvia Guadagnoli)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

So many things are going on, it is difficult to know where to begin.

The best news is that we have received notification of a bequest in the amount of \$25,000 - with which the Board has decided to establish an Endowment Fund. Only the interest will be used for our operating budget. We hope such a bequest will encourage others to name Audubon Society of the Everglades as beneficiary in their wills.

Dale Neuenschwander, our Education Co-chairman, has been nominated by her school for the Bill Lawyer Excellence in Education Award. We have endorsed her nomination and wish her the best of luck.

The Valentine Reception for Alice Wainwright's office in Miami was quite nice. During the evening, in addition to the drawings for the

excellent prizes, Alice was presented with a lifetime membership in Florida Audubon Society in appreciation for her many years of service to environmental issues on all fronts - local, state and national.

Lucky winners in the drawings were: Susan Lubitz, Boca Raton, winner of the Cheeca Lodge vacation; Professor and Mrs. Loren Wicks, Kendall, winners of the Harbour Ridge vacation; Mrs. E. Andrews, Miami, winner of the Microwave Oven. Also Michael Baraz, North Miami, won the Edna Hibbel print; Frank Adler, Fort Lauderdale, won the porcelain Blue Jay, and Mel Miller, Miami, won the canoe trip. The winning tickets were drawn by Charlie Brookfield, who headed the Southeast Florida NAS office before Alice Wainwright.

Still another protector of Florida's environment leaves for the west. Last month we wrote about Jean Takekawa. Now we learn that Jack Morehead, superintendent of Everglades National Park, will become superintendent of Yosemite National Park, where he began his career as a ranger.

During his tenure at Everglades National Park, Morehead has been tenacious in his efforts to have water levels and water delivery to the park restored to a more natural system. We are sorry to see him leave before that task is completed. But, on second thought, that will probably take years and years. In the meantime, the grapevine says Yosemite is in desperate need of someone with Jack Morehead's qualifications. We wish him the very best.

Who would like to represent ASE in Florida Audubon's Annual Canoe-a-thon? There are so many of us who enjoy canoeing it's surprising that so few take part. Entry forms will be available at the March 4th meeting for this April 12th event.

Doris Mager leaves for her 3000 mile bicycle fundraiser on March 21, arriving in Ventura, California on the 29th. In addition to the bi-

cycle trek, Doris will give lectures at schools along her route. A form is located on Page 8 if you would like to send her a contribution or a pledge.

The necessary documents have been filed by Florida Audubon in Tallahassee appealing the Torry Island development in Lake Okeechobee. Assuming we will have standing in this issue, the Governor and Cabinet, sitting as the Water and Adjudicatory Commission, will be asked to void the permit issued by the South Florida Water Management Governing Board. The MIAMI HERALD had an excellent editorial on the subject on February 17.

FAS has issued its annual appeal for funds to be used to offset additional expenses during the legislative session. This year's session promises to keep us all busy writing letters and making calls, not to mention the hard work of Charles Lee, David Gluckman and Warren Henderson.

Could we try something one of our sister chapters did once? Broward Audubon had a no-bake bake sale and raised over a thousand dollars. \$1.00 per person would put us over. Let's see what we can do! Instead of buying ingredients to make cookies, bread, cakes, etc., make a check (for cost of same) payable to Florida Audubon Society, marked Legislative Fund, and send it to our P.O. Box 6762, West Palm Beach, FL 33405. We will report the total to you and send the checks to Maitland.

(Leah Schad)

EDUCATION REPORT

Sylvia and I would like someone else to help judge the junior and senior high school science projects on Thursday, March 6th, at the Palm Beach Mall from 5 to 8 p.m. Please call Dale at Barton School, 585-7548, by March 3 if you are interested.

Once again ASE sponsored a group of ten Palm Beach County teachers attending the Project Wild Weekend on February 21-23. Some of these tea-

chers are also leaders of the local Audubon Adventures Clubs.

Because our courier of magazines is moving, please recycle your Audubon and Geographic magazines by contacting your nearest elementary school and arranging to drop them off yourself. These magazines are very well received at the elementary level, so keep them in re-circulation.

A new Florida Dept. of Natural Resources packet, "Manatees - Educators' Guide to the Natural History, Habitat, Problems and Conservation of the Order Sirena," is now available. Write FAS Educational Services or Save the Manatee Program, 1101 Audubon Way, Maitland, FL 32751. (Dale Neuenschwander and Sylvia Dunnam)

LIBRARY ADDITIONS

Recent additions to the Audubon Ornithological Collection at the Summit Blvd. headquarters of the Palm Beach County Public Library:

"Bird Banding" - Elliot McClure
"Nest Building and Bird Behavior" - N.E. and E. Collias
"Redwings" - Robert W. Nero
"Bird Behavior" - Robert Burton
"Neotropical Ornithology - AOU Monograph #36" - Biology Dept., U. of South Mississippi
"The Roseate Spoonbill" - Robert Porter Allen
"Birds of San Diego County" - Phillip Unitt

And don't forget, if you are traveling this summer, we have books covering birds in many of the places you may wish to go. (Victor Muller)

FLORIDA BREEDING BIRD ATLAS PROJECT TO START

Birds have long been known as sensitive and reliable environmental indicators. Close monitoring of their nesting status provides inval-

uable ecological data and has far-reaching implications for conservationists.

We live in one of the most ornithologically exciting regions of North America, but one for which surprisingly little is known about the status and distribution of breeding birds. Although other parts of the world have had atlases of their nesting birds for some time, baseline data on nesting species has been sadly lacking in North America.

Now we in Florida have an opportunity to help! A breeding bird atlas defines the distribution of all species of birds nesting within a particular geographic area, and is based upon field surveys conducted within subareas defined by a map grid. The baseline data gathered by a breeding bird atlas project is invaluable, and collecting it provides an opportunity for volunteer birders of all levels of ability to contribute to a major project far beyond the reach of any individual, natural history organization or research agency.

Field work for the project is being conducted by the Florida Audubon Society with the assistance of the Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, and will be carried out during the five-year period of 1986-1990. The blocks to be surveyed are designated on maps in a uniform grid system. Each block is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles square, and the goal of the atlas project is to survey every possible block in the state. It is estimated that a block can be covered in a total of about 25 hours over the five-year period.

Your objective as an atlas participant is to help locate every bird species breeding within your assigned block or special area, and confirm breeding in as many of these species as possible. You may wish to team up with others to survey a block. This would be a good idea if your time is limited or you are a beginning birder. In such cases, a team

leader will be designated for the block, and the coordinator will put you in touch with that person.

Every interested birder, regardless of experience, can participate in the atlas project, but team leaders and coordinators from county to state level will maintain strict quality control over data entries. Our county coordinator is Howard Langridge, and Mark Robson is the local representative of the Nongame Wildlife Program.

Your help is needed now. Some counties have already begun the work. If you want to find out more about this exciting project, come to a beginning organizational workshop/meeting at Pine Jog Center, 6301 Summit Blvd., West Palm Beach, on Thursday, March 6, at 7:30 p.m., or call Howard Langridge at 582-7519.

FLAMINGOS OF WALVIS BAY

We saw our first flamingo in the desert dead on the road. We were driving across the absolutely waterless desert between Omaruru and Swakopmund in South West Africa. The bird had been flying the night before and struck a power line beside the road. Even though it was a Greater Flamingo, we were impressed with how little bird meat there really is. The body is a small connector to long legs, long neck, and two long wings.

There are two species here, the Greater and the Lesser. They feed intermixed by the thousand upon thousand on the salt flats of Walvis Bay. Sometimes flocks go by overhead so thick and so huge that they block out the sky,

The Greater Flamingo has an almost white basic color, but it has brilliant patches of red on the forewing and its bill is pink with a black tip. The Lesser Flamingo is about three-quarters of the Greater's size and its body and neck are red and its bill appears entirely dark red.

The road out on the dikes is about eight miles long. As far as our eyes could see there were pink islands shimmering on the horizon. It was flat calm and the mirage gave these huge blotches of pink an eerie effect.

Imagine that you stood on Lake Worth Bridge looking north and as far as your eyes could see both shores were solid pink. This is the sight we had for mile after mile.

The flamingo is a photographer's dream bird. It is big, colorful, dignified, and not too shy. Their poses, whether standing upright or dipping their heads under water, make fine pictures. I have also read that if firmly grasped by both legs they make croquet mallets, but we did not observe this on the lawns of Swakopmund. (Hank McCall)

TROPICAL AUDUBON TO SPONSOR OPEN HOUSE

An Open House for Tropical Audubon's Environmental Education Department is scheduled for Sunday, March 23, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Doc Thomas House, 5530 Sunset Avenue, South Miami. David Hitzig, TAS Environmental Education chairman, will be on hand to introduce native birds and animals used in their programs.

Dale and Linda Crider will add to the festivities with a concert at 2 p.m. You are asked to enter the property at the gate on the 56th Avenue side.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Boynton Beach: Ann C. Groke

Delray Beach: Joseph H. Carr

Juno Beach: Carmen & Dan Corbett,
Gerald E. Lussier, Charles W. Rentz

Jupiter: Mrs. R.A. Benson Jr., Donald
R. Connell, Rhodes Robinson

Lake Park: Henry DeLuca

Lake Worth: Caroline H. Allen, S.
Ralfanz, Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Lewis,
Mrs. Edward McDonough, Helen &
Ronnie Pencek

Lantana: J.G. Parnell, Christine
A. Rupp

North Palm Beach: Robert G. Fuller,
Charles & Dorothy Hyne, Mrs. M.
O'Brien, Susan J. Shields

Palm Beach: Michael Bromley, Miguel
Debraganca, Mrs. H. Evilsizor

South Palm Beach: Ethel & Irving
Shapiro

Tequesta: Mary F. O'Brien, Mr. & Mrs.
Edward W. Priebe, William W. Prout

West Palm Beach: Fred Barshell, Henry
Brier, Peter Gansz, Donald E. Grant,
Brent J. Lilley, Peter Matwiczuk,
Richard Pereira, Ethel B. Rogers,
Diane Thompson, James Wheeler

Out-of-state: Bobby Chapman, Houston,
Texas; Jennifer Harris, Prairie
City, Oregon

THREE AUTHORS LUNCHEON

Broward County Audubon Society will again host a Three Authors Luncheon at the Kapok Tree Inn, 3501 S.W. 130th Avenue, Davie, on Saturday, March 15th. (I-95 south to SR. 84, exit west to S.W. 130th, then south following Kapok Tree signs.)

This year's authors include Georgia Trasker ("Wild Things"), James P. McMullen ("Cry for the Panther") and Ken Morrison ("Mountain Lake Almanac").

An optional nature walk is set for 11 a.m., cash bar at Noon, and luncheon at 12:30 p.m. (includes appetizers, soup, fruit and salad bar).

A number of us attended this delightful event last year and highly recommend it. (Leah Schad)

CONSERVATION NEWS

The 1986 legislative wish list

in last month's KITE was substantially covered on a three-prong attack by Leah, Chuck and myself on February 19th at the Town Meeting of our legislative delegates. No commitments asked for, expected or volunteered. May I suggest you keep up the pressure? The points of last month's conservation column are all valid and unaddressed. I would welcome discussion via telephone or at our meetings. But mostly brief messages from a variety of people in different walks of life are what drive home the point to politicians.

The Boca City Councilmen and Mayor adopted an approval of the concept of our county-wide Wilderness Island Coalition. That brings them in step with the County Comprehensive Land Use Plan. We consider this as a continuing crack in the door to the possible saving of part of the Yamato Pine Scrub area. Negotiations, involvement of an attorney, the county, some prominent people, Treasure Coast, etc. are planned.

Our new Landscape Ordinance is progressing toward final acceptance. A Tree Ordinance is now in the works.

On February 6, Herb Kale went on site of the Solid Waste Authority property to do an evening bird count. Park Service was represented both from the Loxahatchee Refuge and Vero, as well as three birders who do research for national magazines. We were treated to seeing 12 snail kites come in for the evening, along with hundreds of wading birds taking up their roosts. Truly a stirring evening display. I believe the consensus is, with the moving and downgrading of the Jog Road extension and the protective measures such as the disputed scrubbers on the stacks that DER is insisting on, the birds will be all right.

The Hawkins/Hatch open house in Port Lauderdale February 17th was essentially a rehash of what has been aired for two years. But with Hatch monopolizing the program, leading his witnesses shamelessly and tossing in a dollop of child advocacy, it was little more than an

opportunistic political display. What I got out of it all was that the Feds abrogated a duty to let the various states wrestle with an overview and the expense of problems which may or may not exist.

On February 19 there was a Beach Erosion Symposium. It had a most peculiar make-up of public servant and private industry guest speakers. One thing they all had in common was their advocating off-shore dredging to renourish beaches. I personally found it disturbing to see publicly appointed state, county and city staffers appearing with private industry that stands to realize direct economic benefit from the program.

There was no one there to present the "rest of the story." A very small minority challenged the panelists with good questions and statements. The majority, though, were uninformed about all the ramifications and naively thought "let's do it and the problems, real or imagined, will be solved by public bucks." The creation of yet another appointed totalitarian taxing district plus whose beach would be the high priority one selected, were problems glossed over.

An example of the misinformation that was supported at this beach erosion prevention meeting: a petition was circulated by some present to Save Our Australian Pines on the "tight little island." Darned if the majority didn't sign it!

A couple of thank you notes are in order to DER for its decision to deny backpumping the C-51 and its denial for a dredging project south of Jap Rock off shore of Boca Raton. Send these notes to Governor Graham, with copies to DER Secretary Vicki Tschinkel, 2600 Blainstone Road, Tallahassee 32301. Enough letters do bear fruit.

On Friday, February 28, a good program at Fairchild Gardens will be given by NAS on Toxic Wastes. If you receive this in time, call me about car pooling.

Conservation (cont'd.)

AUDUBON'S LOSS

Next Conservation Meeting -
Wednesday, March 12, 7:30 p.m. at the
home of Ruth Trumpower, 165 Auburn
Drive, Lake Worth. Call 585-3968 if
directions needed. (Cissy Durando)

In recent weeks, ASE has lost
two very good friends and long-time
members - Elsie Baker, who was ac-
tive in earlier Audubon youth pro-
grams, and Anita Gardner, a suppor-
tive participant in many of our
activities. We extend our sympathy
to their families and friends.

ASE ANNUAL MEETING & LUNCHEON

Sunday, April 13, 1986

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Reservations are required and may be made in person at the March 4th
Audubon Society meeting at the Garden Club Center, or by mail. The cost is
\$16.00 per person. Your check is your receipt. All tickets will be held
at the door for those with reservations. Deadline for reservations - Friday,
April 4th. Late registrations will be accepted only on Monday, April 7th,
for an additional \$4.00 per ticket. Sorry, no ticket sales at the door.
Make check payable to Audubon Society of the Everglades.

Reservation Form

Please reserve _____ luncheon tickets @ \$16.00 per ticket
Enclosed is my check or money order for \$ _____. Hold ___ tickets for:

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

Mail to: A.S.E. Deitz
220 Henthorne Drive, B-7
Palm Springs, Florida 33461

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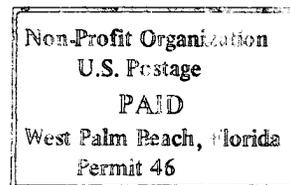
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