

STOUFFER FILMS SHOW HOW TO AND RESULTS

We will show two Marty Stouffer films at the November 4th meeting of the Society.

It is probably safe to say that we all wonder, in utter amazement, how a nature photographer manages to capture "just the right" sequence in his or her films. Marty Stouffer gives us a behind-the-scenes story and lets us in on his successes and frustrations.

After we learn "how it happens," we'll view "Swamp Critters," a 26-minute color trip through some of America's southern swamps.

Stouffer's films are always enjoyable and enlightening. We know you will enjoy both of them.

Remember to vote, then bring your family, friends and neighbors to the West Palm Beach Garden Club Center at 7:30 p.m. on the 4th for our meeting and program. (Leah Schad)

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

HURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 10:00 a.m. -
Dreher Park Zoo. Meet in Zoo parking lot. Bring picnic lunch.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 7:30 a.m. -
Loxahatchee National Wildlife

Refuge. Meet at Marsh Trail parking lot.

Reminder - The FAS annual conference is scheduled Nov. 7-9.
(Sylvia Guadagnoli)

ASE PLANS FOR THE SOUTH FLORIDA FAIR

This year for the South Florida Fair, the Society has decided to join other environmentally concerned organizations and place its exhibit booth in the Conservation Tent. The cost of this space is paid for by donation tickets for a drawing to be held February 1st at the Fair. The donations are tax deductible and you need not be present to win. The prizes include camping equipment, a color TV, a VCR, and a trip for two to Grand Bahama Island.

After all expenses are paid, the proceeds are to be divided among the tent participants. ASE has a chance to make money if we all pitch in and sell these tickets.

Please contact me at home, 842-2364, or at the monthly meeting. P.S. Save time to booth-sit also, Jan. 22 - Feb. 1. (Susan Korzenewski)

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WANTED - Some home-baked goodies for our refreshment table for the December meeting. This is the only time we

ask for your help. When you're planning that Christmas fruitcake or those other baked goods that can be prepared ahead of time, think of Audubon and put an extra pan in the oven for us.

Please call Hospitality Chairman Barbara Liberman, 965-2909 (eves.), so that she will know how to plan for the December 2nd meeting.

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BIG BEND PARK, TEXAS (PART I)

We had to fight off depression from the strange and hostile scenery of Big Bend. In contrast to our lush green of Florida, this Texas park was seared brown and rocky, the plants were scrawny and thorny, and the dry air sucked the moisture from our bodies. The first day we really didn't like it.

Then a bird watcher told us to try Sam Nail Farm about five miles off the main road toward the west park entrance. We walked about 400 yards on a dusty rocky path through thorny weeds and found a little gully. There was an old fashioned windmill slowly turning in the hot late afternoon breeze and pumping a dribble of water into an overflowing old horse trough. Bright green weeds crowded around it and a delightful grove of willow, sumac, fig and cottonwood trees stood framing the stage. Someone had placed benches to view the center of action around the trough.

There we sat, with the late afternoon sun at our backs, for the most delightful hour of birding ever experienced. It was swarming! The birds were so intent on drinking, bathing and messing that they paid little attention to us. We saw varied buntings, yellow-breasted chat, yellow-throated, Audubon's, Wilson's and black and white warblers, Bell's vireo, pyrrhuloxia, cardinals, mockingbirds, verdin, rufous-crowned sparrows, summer tanagers, blue and black-headed grosbeak and hummingbirds.

Flying beetles as big as hummingbirds were so common that at first we missed our tiny friends, but then we saw a broad-tailed hummingbird working its nest ten feet away. Her chicks had hatched and we could see the little beaks pushing up for food.

Our lasting impression is one of bright flashing colors and furious activity in a little pocket of bird paradise. (Hank McCall)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the home stretch for 1986 comes in sight, with the busy summer and most of the fall for ASE behind us and a round of activities for Auduboners ahead of us, I'd like to review some of our most recent activities.

Of course the Birdathon in the spring, the FAS Retreat and Workshop at Sebring, attendance at the Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Association Convention and at the Florida Committee for Rare & Endangered Plants & Animals meeting, the peacock pellet case and the Peacock Pond problems, the Boca beach sand addition case and the turtles on Manalapan beach, the Coast Week activities, the Fall Bird Count and the Smith Dairy battle - to mention only a few. The chapter hopes to have a good representation at the FAS Convention early in November, too. Many thanks to you chapter members who have taken part in these activities and more.

To the contributors to the KITE's very interesting pages and to its indomitable editor I owe a vote of thanks also. It is believed to be one of the best publications of its kind.

A very happy and thanks-filled Thanksgiving season to all of you. I hope to see you at our monthly meeting on November 4th. (Chuck Potter)

A TALE OF THE TRAIL

Once upon a time, in 1967 to be exact, the Custard Apple Nature Trail in John Prince Park was created by

some of ASE's early members. They worked hard to plant native trees and shrubs and to maintain a trail where residents and visitors could learn about our natural environment and the importance of preserving it.

To assist in the enjoyment and support of the trail, a booklet entitled "Native Plants Along The Custard Apple Trail" was written by Louise Van Acker and illustrated by Winona Stearns. After the guided walks started, it soon became evident that a "Leader's Guide" would be very helpful in training our volunteer guides, so Alice Stearns both wrote and illustrated this.

Now the time has come to update and combine these booklets. Through the very great enthusiasm of Louise Morgan, a long time member of every trail-supporting group, this project is now underway. Others working on the booklet are Peggy Teahan, whose advice and expert typing are indispensable; Bruce Offord, an assiduous volunteer guide who is researching needed additions to the animal, reptile and insect section; Jimmy Socash, whose excellent additional illustrations will greatly increase the booklet's helpfulness, and myself, assigned to double check species' names and rearrange and correct the plant listings.

And also now - we have come to the nitty gritty - we need sponsors to provide funds to publish the booklet. If one or two hundred of our almost twelve hundred members would send ASE a check for five or ten dollars, we will be able to have it printed. Through having sponsors we can also keep the book's sale price low and thus make it available to more students, trail walk participants and others interested in an introduction to South Florida's unique flora and fauna.

If you will help, please make a check payable to Audubon Society of the Everglades and mail it to me at 135 Auburn Drive, Lake Worth, FL 33460. We will list all sponsors, so please include a note giving your preferred listing, i.e. Mr. and Mrs.

John Doe or Helen and Jim Doe, etc.

We hope to publish it before the trail walks start in January, so financing is urgent. Please help NOW. (Ruth S. Trumpower)

FALL BIRD COUNT

The "if only..." lament is often heard during our bird counts. Saturday night (Oct. 18) at the Langridge home, where this fall's ASE count compilation was held, the cry was "if only the count had been on Thursday." Alas, all the migrating passerines found in such abundance Thursday, after rain during the night, had continued their journey southward during the two subsequent days of clearer weather.

None the less, 16 participants managed to discover the surprising number of 106 species on Saturday. Some of the noteworthy birds reported were a bald eagle and good shorebirds by M. Eaton and Lonnie Calmes, a hairy woodpecker and stilt sandpiper by T. Trotsky, and several kinds of lingering shorebirds by the Weinriches. Incidentally, Ann and Phil report that an area along the Loxahatchee Refuge east of the office building has been recently cleared of cattails and should be a good spot for waterfowl this season.

Our Christmas Bird Count will be on December 20. Mark your calendar. (Gloria Hunter)

PINE JOG REMINDERS

Campfire Cookouts for families are scheduled at Pine Jog, 6:30 p.m., on Nov. 13 and Dec. 11. A day canoe trip to the Water Catchment Area will be held from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. on Nov. 19th. Call 686-6600 for details.

The Vagabond Van trip to Titusville/Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge is set for December 5-7. Cost is \$150 for double occupancy. Call Pine Jog for reservations and information about many more events.

KITE STRINGS

Attention Birders: Information on wintering sites of the piping plover, listed as endangered/threatened throughout its range, is needed to assist in a management plan for the species' survival. Please report data and location for any piping plovers seen October-March to Janice Nicholls, Dept. of Zoology/Wildlife, 331 Funchess Hall, Auburn University, Alabama 36849-4201.

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Next Conservation Meeting -
Wednesday, November 12, 7:30 p.m.,
home of Ruth Trumpower, 165 Auburn
Drive, Lake Worth.

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COASTWEEK '86 SAND SCULPTURE CONTEST

On Saturday, October 11th,
seven people participated in ASE's
second annual sand sculpture con-
test which was held on Singer Island
this year.

Prize winners were: 1st - Lynn
Lytle and her daughter Becky, age 8,
who created a sea turtle, sea
snake and sailboat. They each

AUDUBON SOCIETY of the EVERGLADES

P. O. BOX 6762
WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA 33405
(305) 844-4992

received a Florida Audubon sea turtle
tee shirt.

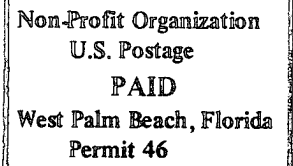
Second prize went to Chris Manr
age 15, and his brother Seth, age 9,
who depicted a hammerhead shark be-
neath a sailboat. They received a
reptile identification book.

Third place winners were Karen
Hilliard and Kristle Aduholdt, who
made a life-size rowboat. They re-
ceived a book about Florida's water
birds, as did Shawn Olds, grade 5,
who sculptured a sea turtle and a
rowboat.

Our special thanks to judges
Carolyn Sussman, Marer Mannion and
Linda Kobert, and to Leah Schad for
the special arrangements she made.

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Sylvia Dunnam, former Education
Co-chairman, reports that all is
going well at Suwannee High School
where she is teaching reading. If
you wish to write to her, her address
is Route 1, Box 341, Live Oak, FL
32060. (Dale Neuenschwander)



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