



# EVERGLADE KITE

For Reference  
CENTRAL JUN 22 1996  
Not to be taken from this room

THE AUDUBON  
SOCIETY  
OF THE  
EVERGLADES

Volume 36, No. 9

Carol Shields, Editor

July 1996

## CALENDAR

**ASE ACTIVITIES**  
Field Trip Information  
585-7714 / 689-1019

### JULY

**2 Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.**  
**ASE General Meeting -**  
**Ken Gioeli - "Bat Conservation"**

Live animals - Details opposite  
**3 Wednesday - Bat Workshop 9-12:30.**  
St. Lucie West; details below.

**17 Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.**  
ASE Board Meeting; 968-0721

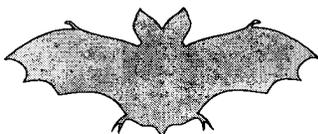
### *Other Activities*

### JULY

- **Views and Encounters With Wildlife"**  
Paintings by Jerilyn Brown, Photography  
by Rick Reddig and Sculpture by Paul  
Cummings; Okeechelie Nature Center  
through September 4.

## BAT WORKSHOP

For those of you who cannot get enough of these nocturnal creatures Ken Gioeli has a Bat Workshop at St. Lucie West on Wednesday, July 3 from 9:00am to 12:30. Call (561)462-1660 for registration and more information.



## A CLOSE LOOK AT BAT CONSERVATION

Florida's own BATMAN, Ken Gioeli, is our guest speaker at our next General Meeting.

After graduating from the University of Central Florida in 1982 with a degree in Biology, Gioeli taught at Yearling Middle School in Okeechobee. It was here he was approached for a job with St. Lucie County as a Natural Resources Extension Agent. He accepted and has since become the flying mammal's foremost advocate.

Also a guest at our Tuesday night meeting is Cyndy Marx, Director of the Florida Bat Center near Tampa. Ms. Marx will be bringing along a menagerie of live bats from the Center.

Learn the myths and the facts of these nocturnal flying creatures. Our meeting on Tuesday, July 2, begins at 7:30 pm at the West Palm Beach Garden Center, opposite the Science Museum in Dreher Park.

— Claudine Laabs, Program Chair

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

The past month has been busy for the ASE board. A special board meeting was held in May to give us a progress report on the Everglades Restoration campaign.

Dr. Stuart Strahl, Executive Director, and Nancy Regalado, Policy Director of the National Audubon Society's Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Campaign spent two hours briefing us on the priorities, politics and finances of this effort.

All the major stakeholders in South Florida impacted by this campaign have been meeting to identify priorities for spending the \$200 million appropriated in the 1996 Farm Bill for the Everglades restoration. The number one priority is purchase of land for additional East coast buffer water preserve areas. The Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) land south of Lake Okeechobee is the second choice. Purchase and conversion of several hundred thousand acres of this land to wetlands for water storage, detention, and water quality treatment is essential to restoration. This represents the most practical means of increasing water storage as so much other land is already developed.

On a second front it is hoped that an additional \$100 million will be placed in the budget of the Interior Department and other departments for purchase of land to restore Kissimmee river marshes, treat farm runoff, buy buffer land between the Everglades and coastal cities, and to do research.

As of this date, the House Appropriations Committee has cut the \$100 million. The bill is on the way to the House floor and then to the Senate Appropriations Committee. Senator Connie Mack sits on the Interior Subcommittee of Appropriations. **WRITE AND CALL** your representatives and senators to let them know you support any assistance they can give to fund Everglades restoration.

Also this month, the South Florida chapters of Florida Audubon Society met one Saturday to share ideas and concerns. Several ASE members attended. The group pledged to meet regularly so that we can ensure that South Florida environmental issues stay in the forefront within the state and nationally.

On a personal note, best wishes to Ruth Trumpower, our secretary emeritus, who is recovering from hip surgery. I hope everyone is enjoying the summer whether you are in quiet South Florida or the cooler north!

— Susan Snyder, President



## AMAZING WILDLIFE VIDEOS

Audubon Productions is calling for submissions for possible inclusion in a home-video program. If you have shot video-tapes of birds and other wildlife (without harassing them, of course) that are funny, scary, or otherwise good possibilities for prime time, send them to:

**Audubon's Amazing Home Videos**  
700 Broadway, NY, NY 10003

Enclose a self-addressed, padded envelope if you wish your tape returned.

## ENDANGERED SPECIES STAMP SERIES

In October the U.S. Postal Service will release sheet of 32 cent stamps depicting our nation's most endangered species.

Included with two of the most critically endangered species, the Florida manatee and panther, are the black-footed ferret, thick billed parrot, Hawaiian monk seal, American crocodile, ocelot, Schause swallow-tail butterfly, Wyoming toad, brown pelican, California condor, Gila trout, San Francisco garter snake, woodland caribou, and the piping plover.

The stamps are based on photographs taken by James Balog, a well known animal photographer.

## ENVIRONMENTAL ENVELOPE ISSUED

The new environmental envelope was recently released by the U.S. Postal Service. The new No. 10 envelope sells for 38¢ and is made from 100% recycled materials. The envelope features a yellow sun overlooking an environmental scene, plus the words "Save Our Environment".



## ASE BOARD MEMBER ONE OF 11 NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

Cissie Durando, our Conservation Chairperson, her active participation for two decades to protect the Everglades and other South Florida parks has not gone unrecognized.

In Washington D.C. last month, the Wilderness Society named Cissie as one of 11 activists nationwide earning the title "American Land Heroes".

A very humble honor for that little piece of dynamite!

## Issue of the Month

Contact Senators Graham and Mack to show support for their efforts to restore the free-flowing Oklawaha River.

Federal funds will remove Rodman Dam and restore the river flow.

**IT IS CRITICAL THEY HEAR FROM  
PEOPLE ACROSS FLORIDA  
EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THIS  
RESTORATION**

Senator Bob Graham  
Phone: 202-224-3041  
Fax: 202-224-2237

Senator Connie Mack  
Phone: 202-224-5274  
Fax: 202-224-8022

## CONSERVATION REPORT

No, I did not go on a sabbatical last month, I ran out of time! Our patient, polite editor has a deadline, and sometimes I do not make it.

Sometimes I feel like readers, though concerned and supportive do not follow through by contacting your congress people, legislators, and local (county/city) politicians. Certainly

literally not us, but habitat and the critters therein, live and die by the actions of our above mentioned employees and their fearful and ambitious staffs.

When we allow a vacuum to exist, you can be sure those that should be kept at bay and reformed, even a little, expand to fill the void.

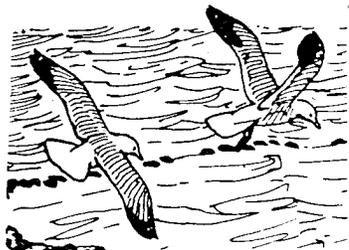
We need to support an adequate budget for the South Florida Water Management District. Our county representative on the Board is Richard Machek. He has been appointed as the others, by the Governor. His office number is 732-8577. Do support the restoration of the Everglades System, land purchase to avoid "taking" accusations, research, and development in order to continue to develop systems that will work, continue to develop a Lower East Coast water supply regime that will protect the environment and retain sufficient urban water supply to prevent becoming politically unpopular. All this needs to be accompanied by environmental education, not only for schools, but the voting public. The District is in the budget process now, and does need citizen support. Penny-a-Pound (sugar tax) is a long way off, if it materializes at all, but the continued demise of the Everglades system began yesterday. The last 2 years have been a reprieve. The next drought cycle will be disastrous.

Your county commissioner should be held responsible if they cave in on increasing densities west of SR 7 US 441. Especially regrettable is allowing additional development right alongside the Loxahatchee Refuge dike. In this mode is also the regrettable proposal of a rail line in this sensitive area. We need a ground swell of protesting.

We have formally protested the Mar-a-Lago proposed new channel and marina on the east side of the Intracoastal, alongside the Audubon Sanctuary. Several important law firms are lining up with us on this one. Any Palm Beach residents within eye-shot of this article, please protest to your town council.

Anyone desirous of more details on these or other topics, maybe I can help. My number is 965-2420.

— Cissie Durando, Conservation



## FLORIDA'S BATS

(Our general meeting this month is on bats with a special guest speaker and live bat species. Read more about it on the front page.)

When someone mentions bats do you imagine those pesky winged creatures swooping down at night attacking people and animals? Most people do think of bats that way. Particularly around Halloween when bats are portrayed along with spooky creatures. And how about Dracula? Pretty creepy guy wouldn't you say?

Bats, on the contrary, are innocent flying creatures with a voracious nighttime appetite for insects. This is particularly good news for those of us who live among mosquitoes. These nocturnal creatures can be advantageous to have around. They are not disease ridden nor do they hurt or molest people. On the contrary, they are clean and docile animals.

There are 1,000 species worldwide; 40 which reside in the US. Florida has 16 species of bats. Because of Florida's peninsula effect, we do not have the diversification of bat species. Most bats live in the northern part of the state in caves and some trees. Here in South Florida, we have 7 species that can be found.

Where do they live? There are no caves in South Florida. Natural locations like tree trunk cavities become excellent homes. Bats have adjusted to the population growth quite well in South Florida. Solitary bats and colonies numbering in the hundreds, can be found in artificial structures. Barrel tile roofs in homes and buildings make good, cave-like dwellings. The underside of concrete bridges, within the structural separations, become cozy nesting areas, too. One bridge on the Treasure Coast has a colony of over 700 bats that roost under it!

Bat species have various kinds of eating habits. Some prey on a large variety of insects. A colony has been known to consume nearly half million POUNDS of insects in a single night! Bats which have adjusted to the tropics are either nectar eaters or carnivores. The nectar eaters can be found in the flowering fruit trees. Carnivorous eaters prey on frogs and fish.

The 2 most common Florida species are the Brazilian free-tailed and the Evening bat. These bats are only 2-3 inches in size. Evening bats are abundant in the Big Cypress region. Brazilian free-tailed bats are commonly found in colonies of 100 - 1,000 under bridges and in buildings.

Why don't we hear about these Florida bats more often? Mostly because they are nocturnal and detecting them, following them, and identifying at night, is difficult to say the least.

For more information on bats contact - Bat Conservation International, PO Box 550, Austin, Texas, 78767-9767.





Here is the latest listing of Board and non-board members as a result of our recent election  
Please keep this for reference until the new brochure comes out in October.

<b>BOARD MEMBERS</b>			
<b>PRESIDENT</b> Susan Snyder 968-0721	<b>CONSERVATION</b> Rosa (Cisse) Durando 965-2420	<b>GRANTS</b> Esther Zaretsky 689-6689	<b>PUBLICITY</b> Jack Freese 585-4358
<b>PRESIDENT ELECT</b> open	<b>EDUCATION</b> Pat Althouse 793-8299	<b>HOSPITALITY</b> Tomi Freese 585-4358	<b>SALES</b> Stella Rossi 732-4786
<b>VICE - PRESIDENT</b> Seymour Miller 686-0462	<b>EVERGLADE KITE</b> Carol Shields 964-1522	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b> Phyllis Cafarelli 832-1272	<b>AT-LARGE</b> Susan Korzenewski 842-2364
<b>SECRETARY</b> Lorri Taylor	<b>EXHIBITS/SANCTUARIES</b> Jim Robinson 641-7175	<b>NATURE TRIAL</b> Ruth Trumpower 585-3968	<b>AT-LARGE</b> Jeannie Girard 965-1390
<b>TREASURER</b> Phil Wagner 642-6013	<b>FIELD TRIPS</b> Ray Buchholz 689-1019	<b>PROGRAMS</b> Claudine Laabs 655-0779	<b>AT-LARGE</b> Ruth Samuels 659-2266 (o)
<b>NON-BOARD CHAIRMAN</b>			
<b>LIBRARY</b> Gloria Hunter 585-7714	<b>NATURE TRAIL CO-CHAIR</b> Barbara Liberman 965-2909	<b>HISTORIAN</b> Cathy Goodkin 686-4284	

Deadline for Articles in August Issue is July 15.

**AUDUBON SOCIETY  
of the EVERGLADES**

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*The Audubon Society of the  
Everglades, Inc.,  
General Meetings are held:  
first Tuesday of every month,  
7:30 pm. at the  
West Palm Beach Garden Club Center -  
opposite the Science Museum.  
The public is welcome.*

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407-964-1522*

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407-968-0721*

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407-832-1272*

*Field Trips  
585-7714  
689-1019*

Palm Beach Co. Library System  
3650 Summit Blvd.  
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

**MOVING? Let our Membership Chairman know!!**