



EVERGLADE KITE

THE AUDUBON
SOCIETY
OF THE
EVERGLADES

Volume 37, No. 4

Carol Shields, Editor

January 1997

CALENDAR

ASE Activities in **BOLD** Print

JANUARY

- 7 **Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.**
ASE General Meeting guest speaker
Claudine Laabs on Photography of
Everglades. See opposite
- 11 **Saturday, 7:30 a.m.**
Loxahatchee NWR- Meet at Marsh Trail
Leader - Hal Wiedemann
10:00 a.m.
South Florida Fair Work Party
Help design and clean up for the Fair
Details inside KITE.
- 16-19 **Thursday - Sunday**
The Everglades Coalition 12th Annual
Conference - Deerfield Beach Hilton. For
information call 1-800-624-3606.
- 18 **Saturday, 7:30 a.m.**
Loxahatchee NWR- Meet at Marsh Trail
Leader - Ray Buchholz
9:00 a.m.
ANNUAL FAMILY WALK Loxahatchee
NWR- Meet at Marsh Trail.
Children Welcome!
- 21 **Tuesday, 8:00 a.m.**
Okeechellee Nature Center
Meet at Center located inside Okeechellee
Park, north side of Forest Hill Blvd.,
east of Turnpike.
- 25 **Saturday, 6:00 a.m.**
IMC Phosphate Mines Day Bus Trip
Reservations required. Details inside
KITE.

ASE Field Trip Information
585-7714 / 689-1019

Trail Maintenance - Volunteer Anytime
585-3968 or 965-2909 for details

General Meeting. . .

CLAUDINE LAABS PHOTOGRAPHY

*"Florida Everglades —
Nature's Masterwork"*

To kick-off the 50th anniversary year of The Everglades National Park we bring you someone close to home and to our chapter. Claudine Laabs, who is also our Program Chair, will delight our visual senses with her award winning photography of the Everglades.

Ms. Laabs background in photography includes her work in numerous publications and exhibits around the country. Her photography has appeared in *Florida Wildlife*, *Palm Beach Life*, *Defenders Magazine*, *Arts Magazine*, *Audubon Wild Bird and Engagement* calendars and many others. Her exhibits include guest artist at the National Audubon Society Everglades Campaign offices, Miami; WXEL Juried Exhibition; Boca Raton Museum of Art; Okeechellee Nature Center; Palm Beach Community College art exhibits and many others.

Throughout the year our programs will center on Everglade National Park. You will see images and hear speakers present the every-so -fragile 'River of Grass'. Join us 7:30 p.m, January 7, at the WPB Garden Club for this colorful presentation.

Happy New
Year
to All!!



For Reference
CENTRAL JAN 11 1997
Not to be taken from this room

From the President . . . by Susan Snyder

January brings northern visitors, cool weather, good birding, and the promise of a New Year. And what a special year — the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Everglades National Park.

To celebrate this special vent, Claudine Laabs, program chair, has arranged this year's program around an Everglades theme. Claudine will have the honor of kicking off this year with her outstanding photos of the Everglades. Other Everglades topics include Corkscrew Swamp, Sanctuaries, crocodiles, Seminoles in Florida and canoeing the Everglades. Three distinguished men will speak on the condition of the Everglades: Burkett Neely, Paul Tritaik, and Stuart Strahla. Watch for live, wild Florida animals in July, brought to you by

David Hitzig, of Busch Wildlife Sanctuary.

Thanks go to Tomi Freese, Ruth Trumpower, Barbara Wilson, Jack Freese, Gloria Hunter, Judy and David Bludworth, Irma McCall and all the others who organized this Holiday supper.

Over \$550 was raised at the December auction. Carol Shields deserves special recognition for all of her hard work soliciting prizes and running the auction. Thanks also to her girls, Casey and Jessie, who assisted.

Thank you, Hank McCall, for December's mini-program on the Christmas bird count. That was a special treat. Whatever Hank talks or writes about takes on special significance because of his enthusiasm and interest.

Events to Watch For . . .

South Florida Fair Work Party - January 11

The South Florida Fair is once again just around the corner. Help us set up our ASE fair exhibit. No experience needed! Call 627-7829 for directions, time and answers to your questions.

Bus Trip to Bartow - January 25

If you have not done so already, now is the time to contact Hal Wiedemann (844-4903) to reserve your seat for the upcoming bus trip to the IMC phosphate mines in Bartow. This is always a very popular and productive trip. In addition to Hal, our leader will be Howard Langridge and we will again be met in Bartow by local experts, Buck and Linda Cooper.

We always see a large number of species on this trip and this year should be no different. The only way to describe these reclaimed phosphate mines is that they are bird magnets, pure and simple. During the last two trips some of the species seen included: Egred grebe, Green and Blue-wing Teal, Northern shoveler, Ring-necked duck, Gadwall, Canvasback, Ruddy duck, Hooded merganser, Bald Eagle, Great Horned owl, American Avocet, Orange crowned warbler and American Goldfinches. This seems to

be a good year for ducks and geese so far, so there is no telling what might be seen this time around.

The trip is on January 25th at 6:00a.m. The price is \$35.00 and advance reservations are required.

Project WILD Outdoor Workshop - February 21-23

The Everglades Youth Camp will, once again, host the Everglades Project WILD Workshop. By offering both introductory and advanced programs this is a great opportunity for all educators to get informed and involved. Overnight workshop fee is \$70.00. This program is sponsored by the Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission and supported by the League of Environmental Educators in Florida, Inc. (LEEF)

For further information or to register contact Diane Bentrup, Project WILD Coordinator 904-488-4679



Congressmen Contacts ...

(clip and save)

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Conservation Report . . .by Cissie Durando

It is time for recounting events of the year, and maybe formulate a resolution or two. If I had my druthers, you would very frequently contact your most local politicians, (county or city), your legislators, your congress people, and/or letters to the editor.

We may luxuriate in scorn for politicians, but for better or worse, after elections, they call they shots!! The declining birding areas, squashed baby turtles, scarred and diseased manatees *truly* hang in the balance. Many calls, E-mail, letters **DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

Would Amendment 4, if passed, really have made a difference? Probably not. Actually it may have worked to strengthen and solidify the wealthier growers and increase their land holding power. Now we will probably see time and money squandered and the "real" meaning of Amendment 5, that was passed, debated endlessly as witnessed at the last South Florida Water Management District Meeting. There will probably be 3 new board members by February. They will have even less clue than the current board as to how to proceed and just may have a few more agendas to pursue!

All the inefficient, impactful developments - be they roads, housing, schools, farms, mining - all get reviewed by District staff and go to the board with a recommendation. The

board is supposed to vote on the application. If, through a failure of prolific notice by staff, the application is postponed, one is still theoretically, supposed to file an objection whether the board has discussed and voted or not.

We got caught in that glitch and inadvertently missed filing an objection in timely fashion. I am referring to our objection to developing 200 acres of farm land adjacent to the Loxahatchee Refuge. At this time, to accommodate possibly up to 1,000 people, there are no roads, sewage system, potable water, lights, mosquito control, sheriff patrol, or, complaining people should it stays wet for more than 48 hours.

We may file an appeal. Your ASE board supports this move, and hopefully our entire membership does. The Everglades Coalition members voted to support us, as well.

For the New Year, I would wish also that you all consider yourselves a conservationist: One who protects from loss, waste or harm.

The distinction from 2 other categories: an environmentalist is one who is concerned about surroundings; any physical condition. Too open-ended. A preservationist protects from adversity or keeps it in perfect or unaltered condition. Definitely pie-in-the-sky! Nothing in South Florida any longer fits that prerequisite. We need to support restoration.

Issues To Act On . . .

Exhibit Chair Needed

Duties: Make displays for volunteers to take to various exhibits. Coordinate volunteers for exhibits. Great opportunity for an Art student or someone who wishes to apply the artistic side of their personality. Contact Susan at 627-7829.

It's Only Natural . . .

Utilities in South Florida, straining to meet demands and protect the environment, found that consumers are open to using recycled water. Support was strongest for using recycled water to clean streets (93%), fight fires (92%), irrigate parks and golf courses (89%), flush toilets in commercial buildings and water yards in neighborhoods (85%), and reduce rationing during droughts (62%). Drinking recycled water was not a hit (18%).

The Southwest Florida Water Management District, which serves the Tampa Bay area, found that they were even more receptive to other uses. Desalination and irrigation with treated effluent were more popular than applying treated wastewater to wetlands and well fields or injecting it (or river water) into aquifers.

ASE Holiday Auction A Success....by Carol Shields

From the bottom of my heart, I would like to express my gratitude for all of those who helped to make the Holiday Auction a success again this year. Member involvement is the most important catalyst to keep this Society involved with the environmental concerns of the community. Thank you's also go to those businesses in our community who donated their commodities or time to help the Audubon Society of the Everglades in our activities.

ORCHID BASKET.....Alberts & Merkel Bros., Boynton Beach

MORIKAMI MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP

LANDSCAPE CONSULTATION.....Pat Dailey

4 - DREHER PARK ZOO PASSES

TROPICAL PLANTS.....Tropical Nursery, Boynton

SIGHTSEEING TICKETS FOR 4 ON STAR OF PALM BEACH CRUISE

THEATRE TICKETS.....Duncan Theatre on Campus of Palm Beach Community College

PERSONALIZED NOTEPADS.....Gail & Jim Perry, Minuteman Press-Delray Beach

4 PASSES TO THE WEST PALM BEACH SCIENCE MUSEUM

POSTER OF THE JUPITER LIGHTHOUSE..... Florida Historical Society

THEATRE TICKETS.....Lois Pope Theatre

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !!

F	R	E	E	F	R	E	E	F	R	E	E	F	R	E	E
Tickets to the South Florida Fair January 17 — February 2nd															
NAME _____															
ADDRESS _____															
PHONE (day) _____															
(evenings) _____															
DATE: Choice #1 _____ Choice #2 _____ Choice #3 _____															
TIME: 10-2 2-6 6-10															

Sign up for booth duty and receive 2 complimentary tickets to the fair. Fill out the coupon above with your date and time choices. Return this coupon by January 13 to:

Susan Snyder
1894 Tudor Road
Juno Isles, FL 33408

Or call Susan Snyder at 627-7829, or Susan Korzenewski at 842-2364.

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

Deadline for Articles in February Issue is January 15.

Audubon Society of the Everglades

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