



EVERGLADE KITE

For Reference
CENTRAL MAY 02 1997
Not to be taken from this room

THE AUDUBON
SOCIETY
OF THE
EVERGLADES

Volume 37, No. 8

Carol Shields, Editor

May 1997

CALENDAR

ASE Activities in **BOLD** Print

MAY

- 3 Saturday—8:00 a.m.**
Hugh Taylor Birch State Park,
Ft. Lauderdale, Meet at entrance
north side of Sunrise Blvd. just
west of A1A. Bring lunch
Leader-Wally George
- 6 Tuesday—8:00 a.m.**
Hypoluxo Island. Meet at marina
southwest side of Lantana Bridge.
6 p.m.
ASE General Meeting
"Florida Crocodiles" Dr. Mazzotti
Details opposite
- 10 International Migratory Bird Day**

ASE Web Site
flinet.com/~audubon

ASE Field Trip Information
585-7714 / 689-1019

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

WWW — Sites of Interest. . .

Explore—Research magazine from Univ. of Florida
<http://explore.ufl.edu>

Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission
<http://www.state.fl.us/gfc/>

National Audubon Society Home Page
<http://www.audubon.org/audubon>

General Meeting. . .

Crocodiles In South Florida

by Dr. Frank Mazzotti

Frank Mazzotti has been teaching and researching ecological issues in South Florida for over 20 years. He received his PhD. in Ecology from Pennsylvania State University in 1983. His dissertation topic was the ecology of the American crocodile in Florida.

Dr. Mazzotti is currently Assistant Professor of wildlife ecology at the University of Florida. He continues his long-term research program on crocodiles. He has also developed a program of research and education on conservation planning.

Florida is the only place IN THE WORLD where both crocodiles and alligator's co-exist. Come and learn about these shy and endangered species at 7:30 on Tuesday, May 6 at the WPB Garden Club, across from the science museum. Refreshments are always served by delightful hospitality host Tomi Freese.

—Claudine Laabs
Program Chair



*Whoooo
is this
handsome
guy?*

*See page 3
for details.*

From the President . . . by Susan Snyder

Completing the first year of my presidency of ASE has been everything I expected and more. It has been rewarding, exciting, and challenging.

Rewards have come from meeting many new people, working with a supportive and self-directed board, and moving ASE in new directions. Excitement has come from attending conferences and learning more about the challenges of protecting our natural habitats. Of special interest is the complicated issue of restoring the Everglades. Challenge has come from mobilizing new volunteers and incorporating more technology into ASE communications.

I am looking forward to the next year of my presidency. Please help me strengthen ASE by taking a more active role in this chapter!

Sincere appreciation goes to those members who have gone off the Board this year.

Jack Freese, publicity chair, has been faithful in sending notice of ASE activities to many sources. Coverage of ASE events has definitely increased!

Susan Korzenewski, exhibits chair, has worked for several years creating displays and exhibits for the South Florida Fair and other events.

Jeannie Girard, past president, has decided to pursue other interests including her new home in Boynton. Her enthusiasm will be missed.

Ruth Samuels, at-large board member, was always willing to help out wherever needed. Her interests in

marine environmental issues and fund raising were assets.

Special thanks —

Hospitality chair, Tomi Freeze hosted an enjoyable pot luck supper at the annual meeting. It's a lot of work to prepare for 50+ guests but Tomi made it look easy. Thanks go to Barbara Wilson, Ruth Trumpower and the other volunteers who assisted.

Donations Needed: Computer/Printer/Fax Machines

Need a tax write off? Upgrading your computer system? ASE can help you. As a 501(c)(3) organization, your donations to ASE are tax deductible.

Our board members are busy and live from north Palm Beach to Boynton to Loxahatchee. Electronic mail is a very effective way of communicating quickly and accurately. Florida and National Audubon use fax and e-mail to communicate. E-mail would simplify our communication.

ASE has no computers at this time. A donation could bring us into the 21st century and help us stay abreast of environmental issues. Call 627-7829.

Palm Beach County Commissioners will be reviewing the single family set-aside rule which addresses the portion of property which must be kept in a natural state on lots—5 acres and larger. The commissioner appears to favor reducing this set aside. Meetings will be held May 8 and May 22. Call Rod Hopper at 478-8501 or 965-9298 for further information.

ASE Gives Awards . . . by Susan Snyder



At our annual meeting, ASE proudly recognized 3 people whose work has supported the Audubon mission.

Dr. Grace

Iverson pioneered the concept of wilderness islands in Palm Beach County. She established a need and drew attention to the habitat necessary for scrub jays. This became the basis for bond passage and subsequent purchase of Environmentally Sensitive Lands in Palm Beach County.

Elain Usherson's award was for her tireless efforts to protect the PBC

environment. Elaine an ASE member, follows environmental issues at meetings of PBC government agencies. Her many phone calls, letters, and public comments have made a difference in the attention these agencies pay to environmental issues.

Willie Howard receiving recognition for outdoor writing which has assisted ASE in its efforts to educate the public to recognize the importance of protecting the environment. Willie's Thursday outdoor sports page in the Palm Beach Post has placed emphasis on sports such as fishing, diving, birding, etc. which require care of the environment if these activities are to be sustained.

Field Trips . . .

by Ray Buchholz

It's spring migration time again, and upcoming in early May are two field trips designed with that in mind. First up is a visit to Hugh Taylor Birch State Park in Fort Lauderdale. This trip will again be led by local expert Wally George. Wally birds this park frequently and will no doubt, be able to find us many interesting species.

The following Tuesday, we will again be near the coast, this time in Hypoluxo Island. Over the years, many good birds (including numerous rarities) have been seen at these two locations. Now is a very good time to join us on a field trip, because many of the birds will be in their breeding plumage and will be much more colorful compared to how we saw them as they made their way south last fall.

Also, these are the final two trips of the 96-97 season. This means that the field trip committees will meet again soon to map out the schedule for the 1997-1998. Anyone with any suggestions in that regard are urged to contact me at 689-1019 or via e-mail at—rayb@flinet.com.

Please see the calendar section of the front page for the details.

Nature Trail . . .

by Ruth Trumpower

The Saturday morning Custard Apple Trail guided walks ended with a bang on March 29th when we had a group of 11 participants. Most of them were children and all of them seemed very interested, which makes a leader feel good.

Many thanks to Mary Johnson, Barbara Liberman and Bruce Offord for again volunteering as guides. Their expertise in advising visitors about Florida's native plants should be of interest to others. Please contact me, 585-3968, if you would like to learn more about the trail habitat.

ASE volunteers will continue the Thursday trail maintenance sessions from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. through the month of May, then restart in October. Again call me for details if interested.

Exotics Removal—

Rain or no rain, 5 volunteers showed up at the ASE Spring Clean-Up on the nature trail, April 12th, to continue the removal of unwanted non-native plants. They, along with Barbara, worked hard through the almost constant showers and cleared a

Scrub Jays in PBC May Be Doomed . . .

by Dr. Grace B. Iverson

Starting in 1992, Jack Gardner and I have banded and followed Scrub jays throughout Palm Beach County, the southernmost extent of their distribution. In 1996, nearly every adult Scrub jay could be identified individually, and thereby tell it's story if we are there to read it. As you probably know, Jack died last April. Responsibility for banding and records are now mine, but Jack remains my colleague. We need your help.

It's mid-nesting season, and Scrub jays guard their territory, sentineling from visible vantage points like utility wire, a dead tree, or top of a scrub oak. Scrub jays are similar to Blue jays, but have no crest, and the plumage has no black or white—instead blue and gray.

If you can, look for Scrub jays, and promptly report the location and time of ANY sightings in Palm Beach or Broward County, WHEREVER seen. Look for bands. If banded (we use 3 'bracelets') try to note color of bands, order of colors, and on which leg. Note the habitat where seen, WHATEVER it is.

Our banded Scrub jays, dispersing from their natal family territory, have moved both northward and to the south, even passing through Boca Raton. En route they might NOT be in Florida scrub, the place where they evolved, and the only place where their needs are met. Please help us. My phone number is 561/545-1292.

Time Management . . .

by Carol Shields

Time — something we all could use more of.

Here are some simple ideas to help our day run a little smoother and quicker.

- *Only handle a piece of paper once.* Get it to its end spot, be it the trash, file, or to take action on.

- *Plan your errands for one trip instead of many.* Saves on time and conserves fuel.

- *Make a one round clean-up of the house.* As you work your way through the house pick up items that are out of place. When you get to the room where those items belong—drop them off.

- *A "Things To Do List" on the refrigerator* keeps all your notes to yourself on one easy-located list instead of old envelopes, matchbook covers, etc.

- *Lay out your work attire for the week on Sunday night* so during the week you aren't running through the laundry, ironing, etc. for just one article of clothing.

Now that you've gained this extra time, how about volunteering some of that time with ASE? We have need for speakers, board members, natural land maintenance and more. Contact Susan Snyder, Board President, or any board member on how you can help your club run smoother and more effective.



Sanctuary Updates . . .

by Carol Shields

Bird Island Restoration Project—At the latest ASE board meeting we had as our guest Rich Paul, Sanctuary Chairman of National Audubon. He explained the process of restoring Bird Island to a natural nesting ground for wading birds and particularly, the Least tern, a threatened bird in Florida. Biologists have been brought in to set up decoys and a sound system to give visual and auditory clues to Least terns. This is an attempt to establish a breeding colony in the shallow sandbar. Because of human encroachment, Least terns today have been restricted to roof top nests.

Bird Island is located just north of the Boynton Inlet. A portion is privately owned. The remaining portion has been under a lease agreement between the town of Palm Beach and National Audubon. Because of its location Audubon Society of the Everglades have been caretakers of Bird Island and other local island sanctuaries as well—Fisherman, Bingham, Hunters, and Johns Island—all found within the intracoastal waterway.

National Audubon is currently seeking a warden to oversee Bird Island and the other islands as well. For more information contact Rich Paul, in Tampa, at 813-623-6826.

Events to Watch For . .

Migratory Bird Day

On Saturday, May 10, to commemorate International Migratory Bird Day, Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge will have a bird walk at 8:00 a.m., meeting at Marsh Trail.

At 1:30 in the auditorium, the Refuge will present a National Audubon slide presentation on *Neotropical Migratory Birds of the Americas*. For further information, contact the Refuge at 734-8303.

A census is taken that day and the data compiled on a national level. There are 3 periods in the year that we take in a census of birds. Winter is the Christmas Bird Count. Summer/Fall is the Bird-a-thon and with spring in full swing is the Migratory Bird Day census.

For information on the census contact Gloria Hunter at 585-7714.

Rare & Endangered Florida

Okeetchee Nature Center is presenting an exhibition of drawings and photographs by John Zahine entitled *Rare and Endangered Florida*. The artwork will be shown from May 3 through July 9. Zahina is a research technician for Duke University Wetlands Center in Loxahatchee. For more information call 233-1400.

Annual Baby Owl Shower

The Florida Audubon Society's Birds of Prey Center will host the 12th Annual Baby Owl Shower on Saturday, May 10. The event celebrates spring and Mother's Day. There will be children's crafts, educational programs and a sneak preview of the Centers exciting renovation plans.

This is the only time the little owlets can be viewed by the public so bring the whole family to the event. Held 11 am to 3 p.m. at the Center—1101 Audubon Way, Maitland Florida. Admission is free, however guests are encouraged to bring 'baby shower gifts' for the Center such as pinesol disinfectant, cleaning supplies, paper towels, garbage bags, or cash donations. Call 407-644-0190 for more information.

Cover Photo Story:—Heinz, a Great-horned Owllet and star of the 12th Annual Baby Owl Shower, was only 3 weeks old when he was rescued, but his injuries are permanent. The location of his wing fracture prevents full extension, rendering him flightless. He will be raised in captivity to help educate others about his species.



Audubon Society of the Everglades, Inc. Board of Directors, 1997-1998

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.

PRESIDENT Susan Snyder 968-0721	CONSERVATION Rosa (Cissie) Durando 965-2420	HOSPITALITY Tomi Freese 585-4358	SALES Stella Rossi 732-4786
PRESIDENT ELECT open	EDUCATION Pat Althouse 793-8299	MEMBERSHIP Phyllis Cafarelli 832-1272	AT-LARGE Roslyn Wagner 642-6013
VICE - PRESIDENT Seymour Miller 686-0462	EVERGLADE KITE Carol Shields 964-1522	NATURE TRIAL Ruth Trumpower 585-3968	AT-LARGE Noel Pettingell 844-1141
SECRETARY Diana Rivera 433-4063	EXHIBITS Geraldine Stephens 791-2349	PROGRAMS Claudine Laabs 655-0779	AT-LARGE open
TREASURER Phil Wagner 642-6013	FIELD TRIPS Ray Buchholz 689-1019	PUBLICITY open	
NON-BOARD CHAIRMAN			
LIBRARY Gloria Hunter 585-7714	NATURE TRAIL CO-CHAIR Barbara Liberman 965-2909	HISTORIAN Cathy Goodkin 686-4284	GRANTS Esther Zaretsky 689-6689

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 June Issue is May 15.

Audubon Society of the Everglades

P.O. Box 16914,
West Palm Beach, Florida 33416-6914
(561) 588-6908

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
P A I D
West Palm Beach, Florida
Permit 46

The *Everglade Kite*
is published
12 times a year.

Editor
Carol Shields
561-964-1522

President
Susan Snyder
561-627-7829

Membership
Phyllis Cafarelli
561-832-1272

*Field Trips
& Bird Identification*
585-7714
689-1019

ASE Internet address
www.flinet.com/~audubon

MOVING? Let our Membership Chairman know!!

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



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER