

# EVERGLADE KITE

THE AUDUBON SOCIETY  
OF THE EVERGLADES

Volume 43, No. 1

OCTOBER 2002

## CALENDAR

**TUES., Oct. 1 - GENERAL MEETING** - International Migratory Flyways.

**SAT. Oct. 5, 7:30 a.m.** Spanish River Park, Boca Raton. Meet at south side of Spanish River Blvd., just west of A1A. See inside - **Fall Migration Field Trips** - for more information. Leader: Brian Hope.

**TUES. Oct. 8, 8:00 a.m.** Spanish River Park, Boca Raton. Meet as above. Leader: Dorothy Brindle.

**SAT. Oct. 12, 7:30 a.m.** Frenchman's Forest Preserve and J.D. MacArthur State Park. Palm Beach Gardens. Meet at Frenchman's Forest on west side of Prosperity Farms Road, just north of PGA Blvd. Leader: Marvin Greenberg.

**MON., Oct. 14 - 4th Annual Young Naturalist Program (YNP)** - "Caring for Wildlife." Busch Wildlife Sanctuary in Jupiter. See inside for details.

**SAT. Oct. 19, 7:30 a.m.** Spanish River Park, Boca Raton. Meet as above. Leader: Chuck Weber.

**November 5 - GENERAL MEETING** - Barn Owl Prowl by Richard Raid, Ph.D. UF Research Center, Belle Glade.

**November, date to be announced.** Owl Prowl. UF Research Station, Belle Glade. Leader: Dr. Richard Raid. Details in KITE. Coordinator: Claudine Laabs, 561-655-9779.

**Sat. Nov. 9, 8:00 a.m.** Beginning Birding Class. Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, WPB. Instructors: Ann Weinrich & Clive Pinnock. Reservations required, 561-582-2235.

**Tues. Nov. 12, 8:00 a.m.** John Prince Park, Lake Worth. Meet opposite campground entrance. Leader: Dorothy Brindle.

**Sat. Nov. 16, 8:00 a.m.** Beginning Birding Class, pt. 2.

**Nov. 16-23,** Amazon River tour and boat trip. Limited seating, advance payment required. Details in KITE. Coordinator: Claudine Laabs, 561-655-9779.

**Sat. Nov. 30, 8:00 a.m.** Wakodahatchee Wetlands, Delray Beach. Meet at boardwalk. East side of Jog Rd. 1.5 miles north of Atlantic Ave. Leader: Doug Beach.

**Tues. Dec. 3, 8:00 a.m.** Okeehelée Nature Center, WPB. North side of Forest Hill Blvd. 1 mile west of Jog Rd. (east of turnpike). Leader: Dorothy Brindle.

**Sat. Dec. 7, 8:00 a.m.** Loxahatchee NWR, Boynton Beach. Meet at Marsh Trail. West side of 441, south of Boynton Beach Blvd. Leader: Marge Eaton.

For Field Trip information contact -  
Gloria Hunter  
561-585-7714

## To There and Back Again: Stories of Bird Migration Phil Weinrich

Phil Weinrich is an expert birder with a special talent for storytelling. We are in the middle of Fall migration and this is a great opportunity to learn about birds and their flyways.

Phil's profession is education and this is his 10<sup>th</sup> year as the lead teacher for the environmental magnet program at Jupiter High School. Phil has taught many bird courses and has led field trips for over 40 years. Phil and his wife Ann have traveled extensively in North America and spend their summers and holidays birding and teaching out west or in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Please join us for stories of Bird Migration on October 1 at 7:30 P.M. at the Garden Club Building in Dreher Park.



-Claudine Laabs  
-Program Chair

**FOR REFERENCE**

MAIN SEP 26 2002  
Do Not Take From This Room



## President's Corner - -Carol Shields

Well, we are into another flurry of activities this season. Our annual chapter brochure, sent with this newsletter gives all our members a taste of what's coming up. And for those of you who are not members, or whose membership is about to end, this brochure will whet your appetite with all the traditional and new activities the chapter has.

Inside the brochure is a listing of our programs and field trips. Our birding trips have always been second to none with some of the best birders in South Florida leading the trip. Many thanks to Gloria Hunter and Linda Most for organizing another great season.

Our upcoming programs are just as interesting. Claudine Laabs has outdone herself again by arranging some guest speakers to coincide with a related field trip held shortly after. Other important information is also supplied in the brochure such as board member phone numbers and other pertinent phone numbers so keep the brochure handy.

My thoughts and readings this past month have brought to mind the use of natural resources, nonrenewable and otherwise, that our nation squanders. It is no wonder we are envied by some or seen as a decadent nation by others. I am probably preaching to the choir when I say this, but I felt a "reality check" was in order, whether to remind us or to remind others of our lifestyles.

23% of the world's population who live in industrialized countries is consuming about 80-90% of what the world is capable of producing. 77% of the people who live in developing countries have to make with the rest (Earth Summit 1992). As a country, we consume more nonrenewable resources than any other. Disposable items that include but certainly aren't limited to diapers, cameras,

food containers and hundreds of others. We own one, two maybe three vehicles, but only drive one at a time. We desire not only for ourselves, but for our family, too. This desire is not wrong, but has the thought of less-consuming desires come to mind?

7% of all the nonrenewable energy we use - electricity, gas, paper, and metal products - is being used primarily for leisure. (i.e. watersport toys, TVs, videogames, cars, etc.) Some of us have more cars than they can drive at one time. Yes, you might say, it's the American way; we are entitled to reap because of our successes. But at what cost to the environment?

An interesting example I read is the huge amount of nonrenewable energy that goes into TV programs for our leisure. I am not talking about the electricity from your TV, but in making programs for our leisurely viewing. The set, the props, the landscape used, materials into set production, camera and lighting equipment as well as electricity consumption. And that includes the bad TV/cable programs as well as well thought out documentaries. And most TV programs do not involve the audience into thinking or participating; just watching.

Choosing leisure entertainment where you consume very little, if any, of our resources are those that seem to give a greater experience to the person - reading a good book, canoeing down a river, taking a walk in a park, playing cards with your family, gardening (a renewable experience!) even just talking with your neighbors.

We are a great nation; there is no doubt about that. Yet in this day and age, our successes in technology and sciences are matched, if not outweighed, by destruction of earth's resources. Exploration of space can take place, yet the earth's oceans and freshwaters grow increasingly polluted; earth's inhabitants (animals, plants, insects) are disappearing at an alarming rate. We have the capability and we have the responsibility. In our hearts as a nation, we care for our rights and for each other. We are great. So think of this just as a reality check.

## Duda Farms: August 17 and 24 - - Hank McCall

Thanks to the diplomacy of Gloria Hunter in negotiation permission to tour the flooded fields, and to the birding skill and cheerful leadership of Brian Hope, we had two superb birding expeditions. Between the two Saturday mornings we had 27 cars and 75 birders participating.

Thousands of water birds came to the late summer flooding of Duda's v vegetable fields. How they got the word of this feeding bonanza is an unsolved mystery. At least 1000 white pelicans in scattered flocks dominated our view. Later in the morning big flights formed to wheel and turn in the rising thermals. What a sight it was to see hundreds of white wings flashing from the sky!

White pelicans are winter birds in Florida. These birds are supposed to spend their summers in Montana, Utah and Washington. In summers past only 10 or 12 birds stayed here. Why were so many here this year?

Pink roseate spoonbills were mixed in with great white egrets at a distance looking like flakes of candy embedded in angel food cake. But I flight the pink turned to a pure rosy color. Standing still in groups, preacher birds waited patiently for some action. Shore birds were hustling all over the place. In all this activity, Brian miraculously spotted one spinning dabbling phalarope.

The miles of drainage ditches servicing the flooded fields were pumped down so low only one foot of water remained. Great snowy egrets lined the canals so thick and close they looked like snow banks. As we drove along they would fly away from the road in clouds. What a sight to see! There is nothing like it in the whole wide world.

By the time you read this, the fields will be dry, ploughed, and planted. The birds will be long gone, and we will have thankful memories for the Duda family.

### TROPICAL AUDUBON SOCIETY - CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please note that reservations are not required unless specified. For additional information, please visit [www.tropicalaudubon.org](http://www.tropicalaudubon.org) or call 305 666 5111.

- Sat., Oct. 5 - Matheson Hammock Bird Walk
- Sun., Oct 6 - A.D.Barnes Park Bird Walk
- Wed., Oct. 9 - Membership Meeting: Hawk Migration in the FL Keys
- Sat., Oct. 12- Middle Keys Hawk Watch.
- Sun., Oct. 13 Virginia Key / Key Biscayne Bird Walk
- Sun. Oct. 13 - Beginning Birdwatching Class at Matheson Hammock Park
- Sat., Oct. 19 - South Dade Birding
- Sun., Oct. 20 - A.D.Barnes Park Bird Walk
- Wed., Oct. 23 - Conservation Committee Meeting
- Sat., Oct. 26 - Beginning Botany Class at Matheson Hammock Park
- Sun., Oct. 27 - Wakodahatchee Wetlands / South County Regional Park Birding
- Sun., Oct. 27 - Tour the Botanical Garden at the Tropical Audubon Society

### Welcome New Members -

Conrad Fannon  
Elizabeth Bryant  
Mary Butterfield  
Dolly Reporter  
Andrea McAlister

### Volunteers Needed -

- Someone is needed to chair the Sanctuary Committee.
  - Help is needed for Everglades Day festivities for February, 2003.
- If you are interested, call Carol Shields at 561-964-1522.

## **Birdwatching for Beginners**

**- Ann Weinrich**

If you are interested in learning more about birds - identification tips and tricks, where to find them, what kind of binoculars to use, what bird book to use, etc. - this workshop is for you. Join us in the classroom at Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, 6301 Summit Blvd., WPB, on Saturday, November 9, from 8:30 to 12:30. Ann Weinrich and Clive Pinnock are repeating their popular class for beginners, which will be followed by a field trip on Saturday morning, Nov 16, from 8 to 11a.m.

Pre-registration is required. Send your check, made out to ASE, for \$10 per person to Ann Weinrich at 826 N. Palmway, Lake Worth, FL 33460. Call Ann for further information at 686-6600 or 582-2235 (home).

## **Young Naturalist Program -**

### **'Migration of Birds, Butterflies, Whales and Sea Turtles'**

**- Diane Rivera**  
**- OCTOBER 13, 2001**

Forty-three elementary and middle school aged children attended the Fourth Annual Young Naturalist Program. This year the program was held at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton.

The morning started with a lively classroom introduction to migration of birds, butterflies, whales and sea turtles. During the presentation about the annual journey of the Monarch butterfly, the students learned about the function of the butterfly's proboscis. Each child received his or her very own toy "proboscis".

There were several hands-on activities such as trying out origami of a swan, discovering the incredible strength of a bird's egg, and participating in an bird walk, complete with toy binoculars.

Gumbo Limbo Nature Center was the perfect setting for the Young Naturalist Program. The bird walk was held along the nature center's beautiful boardwalk. During a break in the program, the children enjoyed viewing the shark and fish tanks. To close the Young Naturalist Program, Busch Wildlife Sanctuary gave a live-animal presentation at the nature center's outdoor pavilion.

A great time was had by all.

**"A baby is God's opinion  
that life should go on."**

**- Carl Sandburg**

## **Volunteer for a Fun Time** **- Evelyn MacQueen**

The Everglades Day Committee is seeking seven more volunteers for Everglades Day on February 8, 2003. The volunteers will perform in a play we are staging. This play tells how the feather trade became illegal and how Pelican Island became our first National Wildlife refuge.

Costumes will be provided and reflect the era. Each actor has a rather small part, which will not take much of your time to perform. We need one more female and six males. However, we could improvise and dress women as men or visa versa.

This play has a very powerful statement and is an excellent way to educate people about our wildlife and environment. I hope you will join us for this great event. For more information contact me at 561-357-2928.

## **Birding with Barry** **John D. MacArthur Beach** **State Park**

Saturday, October 5, 2002 at  
2:30 p.m.

**- Michelle Toepfer,**  
**Park Services Specialist**

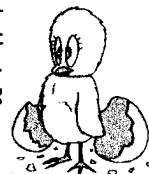
Learn the names, identifying characteristics, and lifestyles of the common and not-so-common wading birds that browse the exposed mud flats during ebb tide. Bring the whole family! For more information call 561-624-6952. Free with park admission of \$3.25 per vehicle.

## **20<sup>th</sup> Annual** **Arthur R. Marshall** **Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge** **2003 Photo Contest**

Open to all amateur photographers. For more information, contest rules, entry forms - visit the Loxahatchee Refuge Visitor Center or call 561-734-8303.

## **Congratulations -**

Diane Rivera welcomed her new son, Andrew Robert, On Monday, September 16, 2002 at eight pounds eleven ounces. Mother and child are doing fine.



## **Fall Migration Field Trips -**

**-Linda Most**

Fall songbird migration peaks sometime in late September or early October as thousands of migrants pass through Florida on their way south. One of the best places to see these migratory songbirds in Palm Beach County is Spanish River Park in Boca Raton. This park encompasses a beautiful remnant patch of coastal hammock and it provides several different habitat havens migratory songbirds can use to rest and refuel as they prepare to cross the water on their way south. By mid-September birders were reporting as many as 15 or 16 species of warblers and songbirds seen in a morning.

Whether the birds will stop to rest or fly straight through depends on the wind and the weather so there is no guarantee as to which species or how many species we might see on our fieldtrips. But if we are going to see migratory songbirds this is the best time and the best place to look in Palm Beach County.

New This Year: MORE RESTRICTIONS ON PARKING. Please note that parking is no longer permitted on the south side of Spanish River Blvd. west of the bridge. This area has been posted with many no parking signs and illegal parking citations are being issued. Limited free parking is still available at the east end of Spanish River Blvd. on a first come, first served basis. Admission to the park costs \$10 for non-residents, so you may wish to make arrangements with friends to car-pool in and split the entrance fee.

Regardless of the parking situation, Spanish River Park is a wonderful place to bird during migration. Don't miss the chance to see these songbirds as they pass through!

## **Amazon Field Trip:** **November 16 - 23**

**- Claudine Laabs**

This field trip was planned to include more jungle walks at a time when conditions are relatively dry. After two nights at the lodge, we spend a day in a new Peruvian National Park called Allpahuayo-Mishana, which has a sand bottom habitat. We then take our riverboat (with air-conditioned cabins and private baths) to the confluence of the two great rivers that form the main Amazon. There will be boat rides, hikes and fishing trips each day.

Cost for this field trip is \$ 1839 per person. For more information call 561-6554-9779.

## Memberships in the National Audubon Society make great gifts!

In Florida, a special 3-way membership automatically makes you a member in the National Audubon Society, Audubon of Florida and Audubon Society of the Everglades. Your membership will include subscriptions to AUDUBON Magazine and the EVERGLADE KITE.

### INTRODUCTORY MEMBERSHIPS:

Regular - \$ 20 Senior Citizen (62+) - \$ 15 Two Year - \$ 35

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

### Recipient of Gift Membership:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to:

**National Audubon Society**

and send to:

Membership Chair

**Audubon Society of the Everglades**

PO Box 16914

West Palm Beach, FL, 33416-6914

**EOO7XCH**

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

Deadline for submissions for the November issue is October 14.

### Audubon Society of the Everglades

PO Box 16914

West Palm Beach, FL, 33416-6914

561-588-6908

Non-profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
West Palm Beach, Florida  
Permit 46

#### **The Everglade Kite**

is published 12 times a year

#### *President*

Carol Shields - 561-964-1522

#### *Editor*

JoAnn Miner - 561-433-0685

#### *Community Relations*

Diane Rivera - 561-433-4063

#### *Membership*

561-798-6566

1-800-274-4201

*Field Trips* - 561-684-8693

*Bird Identification* - 561-585-7714

#### *ASE Internet Address*

[audubon.eglades@earthlink.net](mailto:audubon.eglades@earthlink.net)

#### *Website*

[home.earthlink.net/~audubon.eglades](http://home.earthlink.net/~audubon.eglades)

SERIALS DEPT  
3650 SUMMIT BLVD  
WEST PALM BCH FL 33406-4114



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

