



# EVERGLADE KITE

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

Serving Palm Beach County, Florida

Volume 51, Number 2

November 2010

## CALENDAR

**Wed. Nov. 3, 7:30 a.m. ARM Loxahatchee NWR, Boynton Beach. 10216 Lee Rd.** Meet at Marsh Trail. Entry \$5 per car.

**Fri. Nov. 5, 8 a.m. Wakodahatchee Wetlands, 13026 Jog Road, Delray Beach.** Meet at top of boardwalk. Leader: Valeri Brauer

**Sat. Nov. 6, Tropical Audubon invites you to Everglades National Park. Leader John Boyd.** Meet in the parking lot of the Coe Visitor Center at 7:30 a.m. Entry fee \$10 per car. For information, or to carpool, call Linda, 561-742-7791.

**Sat. Nov. 6, 8 a.m. Riverbend Pk, Jupiter, 9060 Indiantown Rd.** Meet at south end of main parking lot, near canoe rental trailer. Leader: Chuck Weber

**Wed. Nov. 10, 7:30 a.m. Okeeh-seelee Nature Center, WPB, 7715 Forest Hill Blvd.** Meet on Porch. Leader: Linda Humphries

**Sat. Nov. 13, STA 5, Clewiston.** To register call Linda 561-742-7791

**Sun. Nov. 14, 4 p.m. Wakodahatchee Wetlands, Delray Beach.** Meet as above. Leader: Valeri Brauer

**Tues. Nov. 16, 8:30 a.m. John Prince Park, West Palm Beach.** Meet at entrance to campground (follow signs from park entrance on South Congress Ave., north of Lantana Rd). Leader: Dorothy Brindle.

**Sat. Nov. 20, 8 a.m. Peaceful Waters. Pierson Road, Wellington Village Park.** Parking is near restroom for ball fields 13-16. Leader: Clive Pinnock

**Sat. Nov. 27, 8 a.m. Green Cay Wetlands, 12800 Hagen Ranch Road, Boynton Beach.** Meet at entrance to Nature Center. Leader: Ben Kolstad

## Program for Tuesday, November 2, 2010, 7:30 p.m.

*GARDENS, OWLS, AND THE GLADES*

Dr. Richard Raid, our featured speaker, will present "School Gardens: Nourishing Bodies, Expanding Minds." Over the past 12 years, Dr. Raid has used school gardens to teach students where their food comes from. The education has not been a one-way street; he and the teachers have been astounded at how a simple garden can make learning fun and literally change lives. Serving as "outdoor classrooms," gardens challenge kids to evolve from being "care-recipients" to "care-providers" and they rise to the occasion!

For the past 28 years Dr. Raid has served at University of Florida's Everglades Research and Education Center in Belle Glade as a plant pathologist, assisting growers in overcoming plant disease problems. ASE knows him as the Barn Owl Specialist, for promoting barn owls to Glades' farmers for sustainable rodent control. These two projects have touched thousands of lives, educating and involving our youth in the preservation of wildlife and the environment.

Dr. Raid was born in Erie, Pennsylvania, near Presque Isle, which is a great birding location. He attributes his love of nature to the many trips and picnics his family took to nature centers and parks. His mother always carried binoculars. Dr. Raid's job in the winter was to clear the snow so Mom could get to the bird feeder! Dr. Raid's work has taken him to all continents except Antarctica. He finds learning new cultures and South African wildlife the most interesting. His favorite place to 'bird'—THE GLADES, of course!

Filled with lots of fun stories, this talk will also provide details and ideas on how to establish your own garden. Free seeds and starter plants will be available for those who might be interested. Come and be inspired! Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, 6301 W. Summit Blvd., in West Palm Beach. Doors open at 7:00.

## Art Exhibit Open at November 2 Meeting

ASE invites you to the Invasive Species Art Show on display at the Pine Jog Environmental Education Gallery. The gallery will be open at 6:45 pm prior to the November 2 meeting. This unique event confronts the invasion of nonnative species in our local environment that threaten to permanently alter our ecosystem, seen through local artists' conception. Brought to you by Living Arts Meta Programs, Inc. (LAMP, Inc).

## Gumbo Limbo Afternoon Program

Tuesday, November 16, 2010, 2:00 p.m

### Sea Turtles: Larry Wood, Conservation Biologist, Palm Beach Zoo

Kicking off this year's series of afternoon meetings at Gumbo Limbo we have Larry Wood, who will speak to us about sea turtles. Mr. Wood has worked with sea turtles in south Florida for over 20 years. During that time, he has developed nesting beach survey protocols, sea turtle rehabilitation facilities, and educational programming for audiences of all ages. For the last several years, he has been developing a research and conservation program that focuses on the endangered hawksbill turtle populations that reside on Palm Beach County's coral reefs. He has a Master's degree in Environmental Science from FAU, and is currently enrolled in the Integrative Biology PhD Program, also at FAU.

## The Everglade Kite

is the newsletter of the Audubon Society of the Everglades, published 10 times a year.

### President

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### ASE on the Internet

<http://www.auduboneverglades.org>

Audubon Society of the Everglades, incorporated in 1966, serves communities in Palm Beach County. Our purpose is to promote the conservation of wildlife and the natural environment and to advance human understanding of our place in the total ecological system.

### Moved Recently?

If you have moved and no longer wish to receive this newsletter please contact Linda by email (hlinda@aol.com) or phone (561-742-7791). If you would rather receive this newsletter via email instead of regular mail contact Ben Kolstad, ben@kolstad.com. Thanks for helping us reduce our environmental impact and our printing/postage costs.

### Bird of the Month: Barred Owl

*Strix varia*, the Barred Owl, is this month's featured bird. Come hear and see Clive Pinnock describe the marvelous adaptations for nocturnal predation this bird possesses. Come to our November meeting to learn more about this fascinating bird.

## Chapter-only Membership News

Dear Members,

Each of you makes our Audubon chapter what it is today. We have the largest membership in Florida and one of the most active chapters. Unlike many other chapters, we are a 100% volunteer organization and we serve all of Palm Beach County, the largest county in Florida.

We currently have over 2500 members, 150 of whom are already local members. I am sure you are unaware that your National Audubon Society (NAS) membership only provided us with money when you initially joined. Every time you have renewed your national membership, your dues go directly and totally to the NAS. Your national membership actually costs this chapter approximately \$10.00 each year. This includes the cost of printing and mailing both the *Kite* and our brochure (program).

Audubon Society of the Everglades is now offering a Chapter-only membership with new benefits. Join us and support local efforts to protect habitat and environmental efforts in Palm Beach County and throughout the Everglades. Your support also allows this chapter to help students of all ages with awards and programs, including Pathfinders Scholarship and Everglades Day. Your chapter-only membership dues focus 100% your financial support on these local conservation efforts and educational programs.

As a chapter-only member and/or National member you will continue to get:

- Ten issues of our newsletter, the *Kite*, and our annual program brochure
- Year-round educational general meetings with guest speakers in West Palm Beach and seasonal meetings in Boca Raton

In addition your chapter-only benefits include:

- Free admission to the Bird Garden tour
- Priority status to field trips with limited attendance.
- Receiving your *Kite* year round if you provide both addresses and dates for change of addresses.
- Priority status for class choices for the Birding Workshop in February
- E-mails, if you wish to be included, on rare bird sightings and conservation efforts.
- Knowledge that your support of our local chapter benefits you and your community.

All local memberships will be renewed on December 1. If you have joined ASE during 2010, you will not need to renew until December 1, 2011. You can check with Paton White (patonrwhite@aol.com; 561-818-7574) if you are unsure if you are presently a chapter member. Renewal reminders will be in the *Kite* and online.

The new cost structure is:

- \$15 senior (65 and older)/student
- \$20 single
- \$25 household
- \$50 patron

You do not have to be a NAS member to be a chapter-only member. You will continue to receive your National Audubon renewal notices from NAS. As a chapter-only member you will not receive NAS' bi-monthly magazine, *Audubon*, or *Florida Naturalist*, published by Audubon of Florida.

Your Board appreciates your support of the Audubon Society of the Everglades. We are committed to providing you with fun, informative meetings and programs, and to giving you the opportunity to experience the natural beauty and wildlife of southeast Florida. We encourage you to join ASE so that our chapter can continue to lead in environmental and educational programs.

## President's Column

Linda Humphries

I convinced my grand-daughter to help me with the fall migration count. She wasn't real excited as we made a list of the usual birds we should see but agreed to help. We drove slowly thru areas near my home and she added a mark next to the names of the birds as we saw them. I was surprised how well she could spell and read at 8 years old. We eventually ended up at the library and then I dropped her at her Dad's so she could read her new book. I continued my quest for the migrating birds alone. I needed some exercise and I always wondered how many birds I was missing as my car went zooming down the roads, so I rode my bike through the neighborhoods. I spent the next 2.5 hours counting birds. I got a much better look at the birds and I was able to locate them easier by ear before I found them. I was excited to see a group of tree swallows sitting on a wire. I checked the Mangrove Park three times during the day looking for the elusive yellow-crowned night heron, but I never did find him. As it started to get dark I finally got a great blue heron flying into the park. All in all it was a rather slow day, but it was an enjoyable experience by bike. Birding experts in our area have concluded that fall migration took place later this year and that we have not had as many warblers as we usually do. It was noted that the painted buntings came back earlier this year. The purpose of migration counts is to get a feel for where the birds are or are not. It was fun having my grand-daughter's help and she enjoyed the experience of contributing to the migration count. We always need more help with the migration counts.

Come on out and join our walks. If you are a beginner there are people eager to help show you the birds and if you are an expert, thank you for all the help you have given me and the other people on our walks. Our bird walks have been a success so far and our chapter is very lucky to have such wonderful guides and great places to bird.

### PANAMA ADVENTURE

March 2-9, 2011

Panama has the reputation of the best rain forest birding in the world (according to Kenn Kaufman and Ron Magill) so we have planned a 7 day, six night visit to this tropical country. The price of \$1950 (based on double occupancy) includes round-trip airfare from Miami, hotels with breakfast and daily field trips. For more information, please call Claudine Laabs at (561)655-9779.

### SCIENCE FAIR JUDGES NEEDED

ASE is recruiting judges for the Palm Beach County Science and Engineering Fair for middle and high school to be held Wednesday, December 8 at the South Florida Fair Expo building. You don't have to be an expert scientist as there are levels of projects. Several of our members have judged in past years. They are enthusiastic and impressed by what are students are accomplishing. The day consists of early morning training, judging and lunch. You won't regret spending a day at the science fair!

Contact Susan Snyder: 627-7829, roysue@bellsouth.net

## Trip Report: Peaceful Waters

We had our first walk at Peaceful Waters Wetlands in Wellington. It was a fabulous morning! The 28-acre park has boardwalks and easy grassy trails. There was a flock of about 25 spoonbills interspersed with many herons, egrets, limpkins and ducks. There was a red-shouldered hawk and ospreys. We saw over 30 species. (To see a complete list go to our website.)

To find the park, go west on Forest Hill and cross 441. Continue to Stribling Road and turn left (south) and go .9 miles. Turn right onto Fairlane Farms Road and take an almost immediate right on to Pierson Road, go .6 mile to Wellington Village Park entrance. The wetlands parking is near the restroom for ball fields #13-16. For those of you trying to find it with a GPS device, the "address" is 11700 Pierson Rd.

### Through the years with ASE: Fall Migration Count 1980

*[Editor's note: The second in a series of occasional looks back at the past, this article originally appeared in the November 1980 Everglade Kite. Feel free to search our archives online at [auduboneverglades.org](http://auduboneverglades.org)]*

A record number of records were broken during our Fall Bird Count on October 18. Forty-one participants from ASE and Royal Palm Audubon, the largest number ever, reported a record number of species (129) during the day, despite complaints from most parties that birds were few and hard to find. A very satisfying total of 21 species of warblers was tallied, with several gold stars due Brian Hope (a new member of our group, recently come from Ft. Lauderdale) for his sole sightings of both Worm-eating and Wilson's Warblers. A report of Bay-breasted Warblers, never before recorded on a fall count, was made by two groups.

Paul Sykes and Ann Ayers tallied an all-time, all-seasons high count of 41 Purple Gallinule in the Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge. We are all accustomed to seeing Purple Gallinules one by one or in small family groups. Imagine this party's amazement when a flock of 35 were flushed from the marsh and settled again a short distance away!

Stilt Sandpipers, only two previous records, were seen by two groups covering the pasturelands. The good turnout of birders willing to work a bit harder on an unseasonably hot, bird-scarce day surely portends a highly successful Christmas Count on December 20. (G. Hunter)

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AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES IS A 501(C)3 ORGANIZATION. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE OF FLORIDA. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

**Articles NEEDED! Send to [ben@kolstad.com](mailto:ben@kolstad.com) by the 15th of the month.**

### Join Audubon Society of the Everglades

There are now two ways to join ASE: Chapter-only membership, and membership through the National Audubon Society.

#### Chapter-Only Membership

When you become a member of the Audubon Society of the Everglades by using the form at right, all of your membership fees are put to use supporting **local** projects: Everglades Day; Education Programs such as model schools and field trips; Scholarships; and Conservation activities. Audubon Society of the Everglades members also receive 10 issues of the *Everglade Kite* newsletter. Send your check, payable to ASE, along with this form to

Membership, Audubon Society of the Everglades  
P.O. Box 16914  
West Palm Beach, FL 33416-6914

#### National Audubon Society Membership

If you join ASE through the National Audubon Society, you also receive 6 issues of *Audubon Magazine*, and membership in Audubon of Florida. For details, visit [www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org). To join the National Society, send your information and check to

National Audubon Society Membership Center  
PO Box 422450  
Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250

Be sure to include the code **C9ZE000Z** with your application so NAS will know how to process your payment.

### Audubon Society of the Everglades (ASE)

YES! I want to become a **chapter-only member** of ASE. Enclosed is my check made payable to Audubon Society of the Everglades for:

Regular \$20       Senior (62+)/Student \$15  
 Household \$25     Patron \$50

I would like to save ASE postage and printing costs; please send my *Kite* via email

I would like to donate an additional

\$20  \$50  \$100  \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

I would like to volunteer for:

- Education  
 Conservation  
 Everglades Day  
 Fundraising  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Audubon Society of the Everglades general meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. (refreshments at 7) at FAU Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, located on Summit Blvd, near the intersection of Summit and Jog, in West Palm Beach. The public is welcome to attend.