



EVERGLADE KITE

NEWSLETTER OF THE
AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

Serving Palm Beach County, Florida

Volume 51, Number 5

February 2011

CALENDAR

Sat. Feb. 5, 8 Riverbend Park, 9060 Indiantown Rd, Jupiter. Meet at south end of main parking lot, near canoe rental trailer. Leader: Ed Kaweck

Sat. Feb. 5 & 6 Viera Wetlands/ Titusville. Contact Valeri Brauer, (561) 385-9787 to register

Tues. Feb. 8, 8:30 a.m. Lantana Nature Preserve, 400 E Ocean Ave, Lantana. Leader: Dorothy Brindle.

Sat. Feb. 12, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Everglades Day, ARM Loxahatchee NWR. Free event! See inside this edition of the *Kite* for details

Sun. Feb. 13, 7 a.m. STA 3 & 4. Meet at KMart, Palmetto Park Rd north side, just E of I-95, Boca Raton. Leader: Chuck Weber

Fri. Feb. 18, 4:30 p.m. Beginning Bird Walk (children 8 and above included), Green Cay Wetlands, Boynton Beach, 12800 Hagen Ranch Rd. Meet outside Nature Center Main door. Leader: Linda Humphries

Feb. 19–Feb. 21 Backyard Bird Count. Call Linda 561-742-7791 for more information

Sat. Feb. 19, 4 p.m. Wakodahatchee Wetlands, 13026 Jog Rd, Delray Beach. This is a GBBC event. Leader: Linda Humphries

Sun. Feb. 20, 8 a.m. Green Cay. Meet as above to participate in GBBC. Leader: Valeri Brauer

Mon. Feb. 21, 3:30 p.m. Peaceful Waters, Wellington, SE corner of Village Park, 11700 Pierson Road. Meet at beginning of boardwalk to participate in GBBC. Leader: Paton White

Sat. Feb. 26, 8 a.m. to 1 pm. Birding Workshop (lectures, live birds) Pine Jog, WPB. For details contact Linda Humphries, 561-742-7791

Sun. Feb. 27, 7 a.m. Belle Glade. Meet at KMart 441 State Road 7. Leader: Chuck Weber

Program for Tuesday, February 1, 2011

NATURE WALKS IN AND AROUND PALM BEACH COUNTY

Nature Walks in and around Palm Beach County will be presented at the February meeting by Paul Cummings, Coordinator of the Lake Okeechobee Trail. Paul was one of the founders of the BIG O HIKE, an annual 9 day, 110 mile hike around Lake Okeechobee on Thanksgiving week. Paul has completed the hike for 19 years and hopes to make it 20 this year! As a member of Florida Trail Association (FTA) he organizes trail maintenance for the 200 mile of trails FTA manages, including the Lake Okeechobee trail and the Ocean to Lake Trail.

Paul, a retired US Air Force officer, is a man of many interests with majors in history and business. He has owned a native plant business and was part owner of an art supply and picture framing shop. Paul began carving wood as a child. In later years he studied painting, drawing and sculpting. He is an accomplished sculptor of wood and stone and teaches privately. His donated pieces of his work can be seen at many nature centers around the county. He has exhibited at Okeehoelee and Daggerwing Nature Centers and others. He characterizes his sculptures as “simple or stylized rather than super realism.”

Favorite hikes include long outings in the mountains and easy summer walks in the cypress swamp when the wildflowers are blooming and the rest of South Florida is sitting in the air conditioning!

Hiker or not, come join us as Paul shares his pictures and stories about wonderful nature walks in and around Palm Beach County. Easy to challenging, you will find a walk to meet your needs.

The program will take place at the Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, 6301 W. Summit Blvd., in West Palm Beach. Doors open at 7:00; the meeting starts at 7:30.

Afternoon Program, Gumbo Limbo Tuesday, February 15, 2011, 2:00 p.m.

Jerry Behan, president of the Friends of the Deerfield Arboretum, will discuss the “tree zoo.” Come learn how trees benefit the environment and how they might fit into your landscape.

EMAIL REQUEST

Please send your email address, first and last name to hlindaase@aol.com. We have been listening to your suggestions and one of our members volunteered to finish completing our email notification list. We are going to be able to send you notices of last-minute changes in programs, bird walks, conservation issues, new birding areas, and other general information. We are also planning on putting information on facebook and creating a yahoo group that you can check for new information and respond to regarding birds, carpooling, conservation topics, etc. Our chapter is looking for new ways to share information with you and between members. We still need volunteers to help maintain these sites. Please contact me at 561-742-7791 or hlindaase@aol.com to volunteer and make this work.

The Everglade Kite

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

President

Linda Humphries 561-742-7791

1st Vice President

Cynthia Plockelman 585-1278

2nd Vice President

Paton White 818-7574

Secretary

Alan Parmalee 498-0996

Treasurer

Janet Schreiber 689-2530

Field Trips

Claudine Laabs 655-9779

Bird ID

Clive Pinnock 233-1400 x4

Conservation

Rosa (Cissie) Durando 965-2420

Education

Susan Snyder 627-7829
roysue@bellsouth.net

Community Relations

Debbie Smith 967-4879

Publicity

Sheila Hollihan-Elliot 845-304-6988

Sales

Stella Rossi 732-4786

Hospitality

Mary Lou Hall 553-0216

Kite, Webmaster

Ben Kolstad 367-7689
ben@kolstad.com

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.

President's Column

I was able to participate in the Everglades Birding Festival recently. I took the trip to Key Biscayne to look for shorebirds. We found four species of plovers: piping, wilsons, semi-palmated, and black-bellied plover. Paddy Cunningham did an excellent job teaching us the differences between the four species. She did not give us the name, she made us think and work out what each species could be. We had lots of time to study them and were able to see them close enough to not need binoculars. We also found four species of gulls: laughing, ring-billed, herring, and lesser black-backed. It was great being able to study them and compare their sizes while listening to her ask the questions that made us think about the differences. Last weekend I was at STA-5 on our birding trip and also learned information about long and short-billed dowitchers that I had not heard before. Bird trips and festivals are an excellent way to learn new ways to identify the many confusing birds we see each day. I find that each leader teaches me something I was not aware of. I am looking forward to attending the Space Coast Birding Festival and learning more about shorebirds. Our chapter is involved in two fun events coming up in February. Saturday, February 12 is the free, (except food), Everglades Festival at ARM Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge. The festival helps people of all ages experience Florida's true treasure "The Everglades". It has speakers, exhibits, programs with live animals, nature walks, music, and food. Saturday, Feb 26, 2011, our chapter is having our 2nd Annual Birding Workshop at Pine Jog Environmental Center. We have scheduled all new programs. Save these dates and join the fun while learning something new. I am looking forward to seeing you!

Be Part Of Something Big!

Join Audubon, Cornell Lab Of Ornithology, ASE and thousands across the U.S. and Canada in the 14th annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC). Your children, grandchildren, neighbors and friends will enjoy participating. Count anytime and any day(s) and anywhere FEB.18-21. Enter your data at www.birdcount.org. Track the results. Join the photo contest. FULL DETAILS at <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/>. Check out ASE's GBBC field trips in the brochure or online.

ASE's 2ND Annual Birding Workshop

When: Saturday, February 26, 2010, 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Where: Pine Jog Environmental Center

What: Pick and choose from 7 one-hour birding presentations

Schedule:

8:00 Registration

8:15-9:15 Falconer (see website to confirm)

9:30-10:30 Clive Pinnock, Manager Okeehetee, "Beginning Birding"

9:30-10:30 Paddy Cunningham, Professional Bird Guide, "Lifers for Less"

10:45-11:45 Paddy Cunningham, Professional Bird Guide, "Warblers Made Easy"

10:45-11:45 Photography class,

12:00-1:00pm Clive Pinnock, Manager Okeehetee, "Raptor Ecology", live birds

12:00-1:00pm Rob Hopper "Birds and Plants"

Schedule subject to change—check www.auduboneverglades.com for details

Cost: \$25 for 4 sessions or \$9 a session



The **12th Annual Everglades Day**

Saturday, February 12

8:00~4:00 • FREE All-day Family Festival

FOREVERGLADES

Discover the Wild Side of National Wildlife Refuge Management



HELICOPTER MANEUVERS WITH PRESCRIBED FIRE DEMONSTRATION (conditions permitting)
Wildlife Presentations / Bird Capture Techniques / Nature Walks / Fishing Demos / Music / Educational Programs / Food / Strazzulla Marsh Tours (AM only) / LILA Tours / Canoeing / Over 40 Exhibitors including Refuges from around the state & activities for the whole family!

A.R.M. Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge

U.S. 441/State Road 7 – 2 miles south of Boynton Beach Blvd. Parking at Monte's Packaging 1/2 mile south of Refuge entrance. Free shuttle to/around the Refuge.

Sponsors: The Audubon Society of the Everglades, Friends of the Loxahatchee NWR, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service & Loxahatchee Everglades Tours, Inc.

Supporters: PBC Cultural Council & South Florida Water Management District
For more information call 561-734-8303 / www.fws.gov/loxahatchee



everglades-day-fun



Audubon Society of the Everglades



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Bird of the Month

Indigo Bunting

Passerina cyanea means blue passerine in Latin, and that is indeed an apt description of February's featured bird, the Indigo Bunting. Come to our February meeting to learn more about this little passerine, which you can see at the feeders at Okeehchee Nature Center, from Clive Pinnock.

Panama Adventure

March 2–8, 2011

The isthmus of Panama has the reputation of the best rain forest birding in the world. We have planned a seven day/six night trip with daily field trips and luxury hotels for only \$1950. (round trip airfare included) Please call Claudine for more information (561)655-9779.

Audubon Society of the Everglades
PO Box 16914
West Palm Beach, FL
33416-6914

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Dated Material -- DO NOT DELAY

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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 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. 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.