



EVERGLADE KITE

NEWSLETTER OF THE
AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

Serving Palm Beach County, Florida

Volume 52, Number 8

May/June 2012

CALENDAR

Sat. May 5, 8:00 a.m. Frenchman's Forest, Palm Beach Gardens. W side of Prosperity Farms Rd. 1.5 mi N of PGA Blvd. Meet in parking lot. Leader: Chuck Weber

Sat. May 5, 8:00 a.m. Spanish River Park, Boca Raton. Meet at split fence on south side of Spanish River Blvd, just W of A1A. Leader: Brian Hope

Sat. May 5, 8:00 a.m. JW Corbett WMA Buggy Ride. Leader: Michael Baranski. TRIP FULL

Sat. May 5, 8:00 a.m. STA1E Trip Full. (Trips will be 1st Saturday of the month. Contact Linda at 561-742-7791 or hlinda@aol.com if you would like to participate another month).

Sun. May 6, SUNSET/MOONRISE CRUISE, Lake Worth Lagoon. To register contact Claudine Laabs 561-655-9779.

Sat. May 12. Spring Migration Count. No PBCO NAMC this spring. We are looking for a new coordinator; let Cynthia know if interested, 585-1278.

Tues. May 15, 8:00 a.m. Intracoastal Areas, Bryant Park/Snook Island. Meet at Snook Island Boardwalk (west end of Lake Worth Bridge). Leader: Dorothy Brindle, 561-586-6797

Mon. May 21, 7:30 a.m. Wakodahatchee Wetlands. 13026 Jog Rd, Delray Beach. Meet at top of boardwalk. Leader: Paton White

Sat. May 26, 8:00 a.m. Yamato Scrub Area, Boca Raton. Meet in parking lot. Hot, sunny hike. Leader: Ben Kolstad

Sat. June 2 STA1E. Contact Linda 561-743-7791 to register.

Tues. Jun 12, 8:00 a.m. Wakodahatchee Wetlands. CANCELLED

Program for Tuesday, May 1, 2012

Lifestyles of Butterflies in the Garden

Come to the May 1 meeting and hear Alana Edwards show us about the life styles of butterflies in your own back garden.

Alana's passion for butterflies began in the mid-90's in her parents butterfly garden. In 1995, she co-founded the first NABA chapter in Florida. Eventually her passion for butterflies prompted her to quit her job as a Spanish teacher and return to school.

In 2001, she earned a Masters in Environmental Science from FAU where her research focused on the effect of prescribed fire on the butterflies in pine flatwoods. She was the lead coordinator for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service sponsored survey of rare and endangered South Florida butterflies conducted by NABA.

Since 1998, she has worked as an environmental educator for FAU's Center for Environmental Studies. Alana is also been an active member of the Imperiled Butterflies Working Group (IBWG), a group working to determine the best way to manage for south Florida's most rare butterfly species. She was recently named as a member of the NABA English Names Subcommittee.

She is currently a part-time PhD student in the Department of Geosciences at FAU where she plans to focus on the distribution of pineland croton (caterpillar food for the Bartram's Scrub-hairstreak and Florida Leafwing), studying in the pine rocklands of Dade County for her research.

The meeting is free and open to the public – join us at Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, rooms 101 and 102, 6301 W. Summit Blvd., in West Palm Beach. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.; refreshments are served beforehand, so come at 7:00!

ALSO AT THE MAY MEETING: Bird of the Month: 'Ruddy Turnstone'. Come learn more about this fascinating shorebird from Clive Pinnock at our May meeting.

Program for Tuesday, June 5, 2012

Prehistoric Earthworks of Palm Beach County

Christian Davenport, Palm Beach county's Historic Preservation Officer, has been taking part in archaeological investigations since age 7 when a local archaeologist took him under his wing. By age 16 he was supervising archaeological field schools for the local parks and recreation department. Since then he has taken part in archaeological investigations stretching from Maine to Oaxaca, Mexico and as far west as Memphis, Tennessee. He did his undergraduate work at Franklin Pierce College in New Hampshire and his graduate work at the University of Tennessee. He has been with Palm Beach County for the last four years.

Archaeological Specialty: Zooarchaeology (study of animal remains from archaeological sites).

Most exciting archaeological site worked at: Teotihuacán, Mexico

Best archaeological day: Proposing to wife on top of a Mayan Pyramid at Chichen Itza, Mexico

Worst archaeological day: Hearing a snap as soil froze before it hit the screen. Summerset, PA.

Oldest archaeological find: An 8000 year old Kirk Projectile Point. Tellico Reservoir, TN.

Coollest thing found: Dr. Dick's crypt and skeleton. This is the doctor who bled George Washington to death. Queen Street Cemetery, Alexandria, Virginia.

Worst thing found: Tied, 1) Finding illegally buried medical waste 2) Finding an unexploded WWII 500lbs. bomb.

The Everglade Kite

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

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OPEN

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Field Trips

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<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.

Donations In Memoriam

Rob & Becky Walton in Memory of Kenneth Rice Sr.

Your company might have a matching gift program; whether it does or not, please consider ASE in your charitable contribution plans.

President's Column

Cynthia Plockelman

Hello from West Palm Beach, on a bright sunny day, with no sign of rain in sight. Drat, as I was hoping for a good spring shower, to help Palm Beach County through the drought. And, it would be a good omen for the newly elected board of Audubon Society of the Everglades. As I assume the role of President, I am happy to see 3 new persons on the ASE board: Judy Munro (corresponding secretary); Gail Tomei as Membership chr, and Janice Kerber, assisting Sue Snyder with Education.

There is a BIG hole, 1st Vice President—who not only backs up the President, but also represents us on the Everglades Coalition, AOF's Everglades Regional Conservation Committee, and before numerous other conservation and government entities, as does the "Conservation Chr." WE NEED TO FILL THAT OFFICE—ASAP!!!

Please, EVERYONE look at yourselves, your family and friends and help us find a conservation oriented man or woman with the public service skills to fill this critically important slot. Fortunately, Linda Humphries continues on the board as 2nd Vice President — with her experience from a great 4 yr. term, as President.

The recent meeting of the Everglades Coalition (now a diverse group of organizations) in Clewiston, at the Chamber of Commerce/museum offices, showed the strength of our associates on the important environmental matters of Everglades Ecosystem conservation. New Chairs were elected: Dawn Sherrifs (2nd term) and Jennifer Hecker. A couple of days before there meeting, there was a conference call on the "wind turbine" projects—first one authorized here in PB County, by the PB County Comm.this month. Already, two big projects are now proposed for Hendry and Glades counties across the top of Lake Okeechobee in what are now agricultural zones. This issue is CONTROVERSIAL & not going to go away quickly —stay tuned!!

Meantime, I am easy to find: my house phone has a good answerphone (561 585 1278) and my email is: CPlockelman@gmail.com. We will very soon be involved in program planning for the rest of 2012 and 2013. Suggestions for projects, improvements, field trips and programs will be needed. PLUS DON'T FORGET THE EVERGLADE KITE—THE EDITOR ALWAYS NEEDS ARTICLES ON CONSERVATION AND BIRDING ACTIVITIES.

Thank you, ALL, for being a part of Audubon Society of the Everglades!!

Obituaries

Some sad news to report in this first newsletter of the summer.

John Ogden

Florida has lost a long time friend with the passing of Dr. John Ogden this April, at his longtime home in Homestead, Fla. Family, his many associates on science projects and Everglades Restoration, Audubon chapters, birders, and friends the length of Florida will miss him greatly.

I remember his many visits to the Reference Center at SFWMD, when he was seeking Everglades and aquatic ecosystem literature and was on the SFWMD staff.

Our condolences to his family in Homestead. May John Ogden rest in peace.

--Cynthia

Donna Deitz

Former ASE board member Donna Jean Deitz passed away earlier this year. Donna had been living in North Carolina for several years. She served as a director on the ASE board and was active with the education program. Donna was a former director of Okeehelie Nature Center. She also worked with the Girl Scouts, the Newfound Marine Institute Sea Camp on Big Pine Key and taught biology.

ASE 2012-2013 Annual Meeting Report

A new board was elected for 2012-2013 at the April Annual meeting.

President Cynthia Plockelman
1st Vice President Open
2nd Vice President Linda Humphries
Secretary Alan Parmalee
Treasurer Janet Schreiber

Appointed to the board were **Judy Munro**, Corresponding Secretary, and **Janice Kerber**, Education Co-chair. **Gail Tomei** will be the new Membership Chair.

The general membership also passed the budget for fiscal year 2012–2013. For details, see last month's *Kite*.

Bird of the Month

May: Ruddy Turnstone

June: Laughing Gull

The bird of the month for May is the chunky little sandpiper you've been seeing all winter long running up and down the beach: *Arenaria interpres*. Like many shorebirds, it wears different dress in winter than the breeding season, but in both seasons it is quite well camouflaged. June's featured bird don't need no stinking camouflage: it laughs at the very idea! Yes, it's the Laughing Gull, *Leucophaeus atricilla*. (And it actually is camouflaged; light below and dark above.)

Come to our May and June meetings to hear more about these familiar but fascinating birds of Palm Beach County.

PAPER COPY OF THE KITE

ASE has converted our *Kite* subscription list from paper delivery to electronic delivery (email) because of the monthly expense. If you are a CHAPTER MEMBER OF ASE you are receiving your copy in the form (email or paper) as you requested and do not need to contact us. If you are a NATIONAL MEMBER and want to continue to get your *Kite* (email or paper) and have not already contacted us, you must contact Gail Tomei (561-969-7567/blackgrouper@comcast.net). You will always be able to read the *Kite* on our website, www.auduboneverglades.org

ARE YOU A NEW MEMBER OF NATIONAL AUDUBON?

We are delighted to have you as a member of the Audubon Society of the Everglades as well. We hope you will join us at our meetings and trips. If you wish to continue to get the *Kite*, please contact Gail Tomei and let her know if you prefer to receive your *Kite* by mail or by email. Gail Tomei (561-969-7567/blackgrouper@comcast.net)

THE LOST BIRD PROJECT

Sunday, April 15 - PB International Film Festival

Last Sunday I was shanghaied to a screening of a documentary film about a sculpture project. Artist Todd McGrain sculpted five bird species that had become extinct in modern times: Labrador Duck, Passenger Pigeon, Carolina Parakeet, Great Auk and the Heath Hen. At first the managers of the relevant sites turned down his offer to install the monumental pieces, but eventually all were placed in appropriate settings. (for more information visit www.lostbirdproject.org).

We have one in Florida at the Kissimmee Prairie Preserve! If you are interested in a field trip to see the Carolina Parakeet sculpture, please call Claudine (561) 655-9779.

Featured Trips

May 6 - Sunset/Moonrise Cruise in the Lake Worth Lagoon Our annual event is always enjoyable as we cruise from Singer Island to the Sanctuary Islands at Southern Boulevard.

Bring a picnic dinner if you wish! Meet at the Sailfish Marina in Palm Beach Shores at 6:30 PM.

\$ 26. p/p - call Claudine 561-655-9779.

Pelican Island Adventure

Twenty Auduboners braved the blustery weather in the Indian River Lagoon at Sebastian to take a look at the country's first National Wildlife Refuge, declared so in 1903 by President Theodore Roosevelt.

We bounced around the Intracoastal Waterway against the wind and the waves and saw Ospreys, Double-crested Cormorants, Brown Pelicans and a pod of dolphins. As we approached Pelican Island, the Wood Stork colony on the south end became more obvious. Cormorants and Royal Terns perched on the sandbar, Reddish Egrets pranced in the shallows, a shy Roseate Spoonbill peeked around the mangroves and a lone American Oyster Catcher poked around the oyster bar.

The return trip was a lot smoother going with the wind and a dolphin escort. Black Skimmers and a variety of terns watched us as we cruised toward the dock and an Osprey with a fish crossed our bow.

REMINDER—Please make your reservations for the Sunset/Moonrise Cruise on May 6.

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

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Dated Material -- DO NOT DELAY

ATTENTION: This could be your last issue of the *Kite*! See inside for details.

The phone number for the chapter, 561-588-6908, has been disconnected. Please visit our website auduboneverglades.org for information. If you need assistance, you will find board member phone numbers, on the website, in the *Kite*, and in our Calendar of Events Brochure.

The *Everglade Kite* is published 10 times a year by Audubon Society of the Everglades, P.O. Box 16914, West Palm Beach, Florida, 33416-6914. Also available on the web: www.auduboneverglades.org.

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 will receive 6 issues of *Audubon Magazine*, and membership in Audubon of Florida, but unless you give us your email, you will not receive the *Kite*. 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.