



EVERGLADE KITE

newsletter

AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

Volume 56, No 7 — April 2016

APRIL CALENDAR

Apr 2 Sat. 7:30 am STA 1E. Registration REQUIRED: send email to asetripinfo@gmail.com.

Apr 2 Sat. 3:00 pm Riverbend Park. "Birding by BIKE." Jupiter, 9060 Indiantown Rd. Meet in parking lot in front of bike rental trailer. (Vicki Rogerson)

Apr 3 Sun. EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK. "Putting It All Together." All Day Trip. Registration REQUIRED: send email to asetripinfo@gmail.com. (Mark Cook) TRIP IS FULL – WAIT LIST ONLY.

Apr 9 Sat. 7:00 am Peaceful Waters Sanctuary. PHOTO WALK. Wellington, 11700 Pierson Rd. SW corner of Village Park. Meet at entry to boardwalk. (Karen Lindquist)

Apr 9 Sat. 9:30 pm STA 2 "Flamingos." Registration REQUIRED: send email to asetripinfo@gmail.com. Space limited.

Apr 9 Sat. 3:00 pm STA 2 "Flamingos." Registration REQUIRED: send email to asetripinfo@gmail.com. Space limited.

Apr 9 Sat. Tigertail Beach. All Day Trip. Registration REQUIRED: send email to ase@rschofield.net. (Rick Schofield)

Apr 10 Sun. 8:00 am Spanish River Park. Boca Raton. Meet at corner of A1A and Spanish River Blvd. See web site for parking suggestions. (Linda McCandless & Kathy Walters)

Apr 10 Sun. 5:00 pm Wakodahatchee Wetlands. Delray Beach, 13206 Jog Road. Meet at top of boardwalk. (Valleri Brauer)

Apr 16 Sat. 8:00 am Mangrove Park "Plus." Boynton Beach, 700 NE 4th Ave, behind St. Mark's Church. (Linda Humphries)

April 17 Sun. 7:30 a.m. TIME/LOCATION CHANGE Belle Glade Marina/Torry Island. Approx. 5000 W Canal St. N. Meet in pavilion/amphitheater parking lot. Replaces 6:15 am DuPuis Management Area. (Chuck Weber)

Apr 19 Tue. 8:30 am MacArthur Beach State Park. "WINGS & FINS." A look at birds, fish, & other occupants of a FL Mangrove. North Palm Beach, 10900 FL A1A. Meet at nature center inside park. Entry fee. (Clive Pinnock)



*Calendar continued on Page 2

50th Anniversary Celebration, Annual Meeting, and Lecture: Tuesday, April 5th at 7:00 pm

If you have reserved a place (currently wait list only), you will join us on Tuesday, April 5 to celebrate ASE's 50th Anniversary at our Annual Meeting and to hear Eric Draper, Executive Director of Audubon Florida, speak about "Water, Wetlands and Wildlife: Florida's Special Gifts."

A Florida native, Eric Draper is a career conservationist recognized as a leading advocate for Everglades restoration, water resource protection, and land conservation. Before becoming the Executive Director of Florida Audubon, he was National Audubon's Sr. Vice President for Policy and staff director for the Florida House of Representatives Majority Office.

He serves on the boards of the Council for a Sustainable Florida and the Florida Ocean Alliance. His previous service included the Clinton-Gore Transition Team, the Florida Soil and Water Conservation Council, and the Florida Water Management District Review Commission. He studied philosophy at the University of South Florida.

Also at the meeting — our expert Clive Pinnock will speak about the April Bird of the Month: Least Sandpiper.

Our Annual Meeting will be held in our regular meeting place at Pine Jog, 6301 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach and is preceded with appetizers; dessert after the meeting and lecture. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

SLATE OF OFFICERS / ELECTION

At the Annual Meeting on April 5 or by proxy before the meeting (call Paton at 561-818-7574 for a proxy to be mailed to you), members will vote on the following slate prepared by the Nominating Committee:

President	Paton White
Vice President	Susan McKerny
2nd Vice President	Scott Zucker
Secretary	Cathy Hanson
Treasurer	Louann Medina

Come Fly with Us - Volunteer on the Audubon Adventure Trail! Earth Day 2016 at Okeehetee Nature Center with Audubon Society of the Everglades on Saturday April 16th 10 AM – 4 PM

*Free Family Fun*Music*Explore Trails*Live Raptors*Grill Open 11-2*Eco-friendly Vendors*

Educational presentations on Raptors, Creating a Yard For Wildlife, Barn Owls, Beginning Birding ID Tips, Non-native Snakes and Florida's Wetland Birds!

Join Us on the Audubon Adventure Trail - six interactive stations that include learning about migration by playing the Great Migration Challenge, Building a Bird's Nest Cupcake, an I Spy game using binoculars in the woods, an Interactive Science Station that is all about birds, and so much more! Receive a collectible bird ID card at each station, and take home a native plant to start your own migratory bird stopover habitat!

We are still looking for more volunteers to help with everything from manning our fun learning stations to set-up, break-down and everything in between.

For More Information, and to Sign Up:
Contact Vicki Rogerson 561-352-7835 VLRogerson@gmail.com or
Karen Lindquist at EarthdayONC@yahoo.com

PRESIDENTS LETTER from Paton White

I believe in volunteers and what they create. I spent last summer buried in our storage unit and read all the minutes and looked at our collection of annual brochures that starts with 1968-1969. What follows is what I learned and what Susan Snyder, Linda Humphries, and Alan Parmalee have been able to add. Many volunteers do wonderful, organization-changing jobs, but the volunteers chosen to be highlighted on our 50th Anniversary are those who not only did amazing jobs but did so for long periods of time. This group represents the cornerstone of ASE for the last half century. Yes, some of them have been involved for almost 50 years! We can feature only a few details about each, but what an amazing group they are.

Marge Eaton's name appears as President in the very first brochure. Some of you may remember when she was introduced at David Sibley's talk at the Palm Beach County Library, March 2014. In 1979 she started the Audubon Ornithological Collection there. Throughout her years with ASE she held almost every position on the board.

Stella Rossi was a driving force in developing a coalition of wilderness islands in Palm Beach County. From her efforts and those of others, Palm Beach County identified sensitive lands to protect. Stella and other ASE leaders led the move to promote a \$100 million bond issue in 1991 which passed with 67% approval. Our county's natural areas are the best in the state!

Rosa Durando (Cissy) joined the board as Conservation Chair in 1981, her life-long passion! Thirty years of Palm Beach County commissioners can attest to her fortitude and attention to details as she led our conservation efforts. She also frequently served on the executive committee. Two years ago our chapter was honored to name our Green School award after Rosa and Stella Rossi.

Gloria Hunter started with membership in 1977 and filled that position for many years. She quickly found her real niche as field trip leader extraordinaire, and her name still comes up on many of our trips! For over 15 years, she was ASE's liaison to the Library for our collection.

Carol Shields started as the Kite Editor in 1993 and was "A WOW President" in the early 2000s before she moved away. She was one of the founding members of Everglades Day, our biggest and most widely attended event, and she started many programs to educate the youth of our county and to honor volunteers.

Alan Parmalee joined ASE's board in 2003 after decades of active service in the Boca Raton Audubon Chapter. He has served both chapters in many positions for over thirty years and is choosing to retire from "active service" after our April meeting.

Chuck Weber's name first appears in 1995 as a leader of a field trip to the Belle Glade Compound. He is a vital member of our field trip committee with knowledge about potential leaders, target birds, and new birding locations. Chuck leads many trips and has coordinated the Christmas Bird Count for years.

Susan Snyder started as hospitality chairman in 1989 and quickly became a fixture on the ASE board, serving in many capacities over 27 years. She has been the go-to person for the last two decades. Susan was also one of the founding members of Everglades Day. She coordinates our community education program and is actively involved with conservation.

Seymour Miller came on the board as Treasurer in 1986, a position he held for 10 years before moving to that of Vice President. ASE's annual Pathfinder Award is named after Seymour and his wife Ruth.

Leah Schad started as the Kite editor in 1975 and then became a fixture on the executive committee and a presence at every meeting in town for thirty years. She knew everyone in Palm Beach County and, no matter what side of the issue people were on, they all respected her.

Claudine Laabs joined the board in 1994. She is an ASE Past President and has been a regular lecturer for our monthly meetings and leader of the Sanctuaries program. She has also led workshop sessions and many field trips. But what do we really know her for? Her incredible photography!

*APRIL CALENDAR Continued...

Apr 22 Fri. 8:00 am Lantana Nature Preserve/Boynton Inlet. EARTH DAY WALK. Meet at Lantana Preserve. South Palm Beach, 206 N. Atlantic Drive. (Dorothy Brindle)

Apr 23 Sat. 8:00 am Frenchman's Forest Natural Area. Palm Beach Gardens, 12201 Prosperity Farms Road, 1.5 miles north of PGA Blvd. (Melanie & Steve Garcia)

Apr 23 Sat. 8:30 am Wakodahatchee Wetlands. BEGINNING BIRD WALK. Delray Beach, 13206 Jog Road. Meet at top of boardwalk. (Chris Golia)

Apr 23 Sat. 9:30 am STA 2 "Flamingos." Registration REQUIRED: send email to ase-tripinfo@gmail.com. Space limited.

Apr 23 Sat. 3:00 pm STA 2 "Flamingos." Registration REQUIRED: send email to ase-tripinfo@gmail.com. Space limited.

Apr 24 Sun. 8:00 am Seacrest Scrub Natural Area. Boynton Beach, 3400 S. Seacrest Blvd. (Chadda & John Shelly)

Apr 30 Sat. 6:30 am PELAGIC TRIP. Registration REQUIRED: send email to ase-tripinfo@gmail.com. TRIP IS FULL – WAIT LIST ONLY.

Apr 30 Sat. 8:00 am Green Cay Wetlands. Boynton Beach, 12800 Hagen Ranch Road. Meet outside Nature Center main door (Valeri Brauer)

Books Every Birder Should Read

by Corey T. Callaghan

This is my next recommendation in my series of the top five books every birder should read:

The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior by Ed.C.Elphick, J.B.Dunning, D.A. Sibley. New York (Knopf), 2001.

Ever wonder why that Green Heron is carrying a stick next to the water's edge? This book will answer that question and many more. It is different than the other books on my list because it isn't necessarily a front to back read, and it makes an excellent coffee table book. It works best if you pick a section on a family of birds (Grebes, Wood Warblers, Hummingbirds, etc.) to read about, perhaps one with a bird you have recently seen or are interested in, and read that section. It takes complicated scientific literature and boils it down so it is easy to read and understand.

This book is available to check out from our Audubon Collection at the main Palm Beach County Library on Summit Blvd.

**AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES
PROPOSED BUDGET**

**April Bird of the Month – Least Sandpiper
by Ben Kolstad**

	Budget 2015-16	Proposed 2016-17
March 2016		
INCOME		
Investment	\$5,500	\$3,500
NAS	\$3,000	2,700
Donations	\$1,500	\$4,500
STA-1 and 2 (incl above)		\$1,500
Membership local	\$5,000	\$6,000
Merchandise sales	\$300	\$0
Fund Raising	\$750	\$400
Field Trips	\$1,000	\$3,000
Pathfinder	\$700	\$700
Audubon Prints	\$5,000	\$0
Sub Total	\$22,750	\$22,300
IN KIND INCOME		
Speakers	\$1,100	\$1,100
Rent	\$1,800	\$1,800
Sub Total	\$2,900	\$2,900
TOTAL INCOME	\$25,650	\$25,200
EXPENSES		
<i>Administration</i>		
Office Supplies & Equip	\$500	\$1,000
Storage	\$600	\$600
Technology	\$4,500	\$0
Licenses, PayPal fees	\$300	\$300
Insurance	\$1,800	\$1,800
Accounting	\$2,100	\$2,600
Legal	\$1,900	\$0
Fund Raising	\$500	\$250
Sub Total	\$12,200	\$6,550
<i>Programs</i>		
Newsletter printing	\$3,000	\$3,000
Postage and Fees	\$1,000	\$800
ASE Annual Brochure	\$1,200	\$1,300
Hospitality	\$200	\$600
Speaker	\$1,300	\$1,100
Rent	\$1,800	\$1,800
Field trips	\$1,000	\$3,000
Sub Total	\$9,500	\$11,600
<i>Education</i>		
Lectures, school programs	\$1,000	\$1,000
Everglades Day Grant	\$2,500	\$2,500
Library/ Historical	\$250	\$600
Green Schools	\$500	\$500
Conferences/conventions	\$3,000	\$2,000
PathFinders Award	\$4,700	\$4,700
Festival and Exhibits	\$500	\$600
Donations	\$2,000	\$2,000
Conservation	\$0	\$500
Sub Total	\$14,450	\$14,400
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$36,150	\$32,550
NET Income – Expense *	-\$10,500	-\$7,350

* As you may remember, ASE was very fortunate to receive a \$100,000 bequest in mid 2014. \$60,000 of that was put in our conservation fund. \$40,000 was put aside to enable us to enhance our programs. Last year our budget showed a deficit of \$10,500. However, thanks to so many wonderful donations from our members, we only needed to use a small portion of that amount. This year we are again showing a deficit. This budget was reviewed in detail at the March general meeting. If you have questions or comments please contact Paton BEFORE the annual meeting.



Least Sandpiper by Paul Thomas

As the name implies, Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*) is the smallest “peep” (in fact, it’s the smallest shorebird in the world). At our Palm Beach County sod farms in August, it’s sometimes possible to see the crisp brown-rufous juvenal plumage of thousands of these little birds on their way back from the breeding (well, hatching) grounds up north. It has yellow (sometimes yellow-green) legs (when they’re not covered in mud) and a black, slightly drooped bill.

If you can get a good look, you’ll notice that the eye is prominent. It appears very large and round, perhaps because of the combination of a smallish head and the lack of a supra-orbital ridge (or “eyebrow ridge”) that other peeps have.

If you’re close enough that you can see color, check out the chest. Least Sandpiper is the only “peep” with dark brown upperparts. In this respect, it looks like a miniature version of Pectoral Sandpiper, another shorebird you might see while out at the sod fields. But Pectoral is quite a bit larger, so confusion is unlikely.

When you can’t get a good enough look to pick up color, try to ID by feeding posture and behavior. If it’s leaning far forward, chest (not belly) almost in the mud, picking up food from almost between its toes, it’s likely Least.

This is one of those shorebirds that can often be found far inland. It prefers muddy shores and estuaries to sandy beaches, so wetlands in the interior are sometimes a better bet than “typical” shorebird habitat. But it can also be seen on mudflats in the Lake Worth Lagoon. It’s not an anti-shorebird like the anywhere-is-possible Killdeer or the “grasspipers,” Buff-breasted and Upland.

CALLING PHOTOGRAPHERS and WRITERS

Please send Bird-of-the Month photos (jpg format) - Semipalmated Sandpiper for May and Willet for June - for posting on the ASE web site to SheilaElliot@yahoo.com. Enjoy our growing on-line gallery of member images (click Bird of the Month on the left side scroll down topic list).

If you are a writer interested in submitting to the KITE, please send your article idea or draft article to auduboneverglades@gmail.com.

Audubon Society of the Everglades
Post Office Box 16914
West Palm Beach, Florida
33416-6914

Non Profit Org.
U. S. Postage Paid
Permit 46
West Palm Beach, Florida

Dated Material - DO NOT DELAY

The **Everglades Kite** is published 10 times a year by the Audubon Society of the Everglades, P.O. Box 16914, West Palm Beach, Florida 33416-6914. Also available online at www.auduboneverglades.org.
AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES is a 501 c-3 organization # 59-6019854.
We gratefully accept any donations or bequests at <http://www.auduboneverglades.org/donate/>

Audubon Society of the Everglades general meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. (refreshments at 6:30) 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.

Join Audubon Society of the Everglades

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

1. Chapter-only membership. When you become a chapter-only member, **ALL** of your membership fees are put to use supporting local projects and education. You will receive 10 issues of the Kite newsletter and you will also receive priority for special events.

ASE Chapter Only Membership Application

Enclosed is my check payable to the **Audubon Society of the Everglades** for my yearly dues.

Membership runs from January 1 – December 31 of the current year

Please circle one ►►► \$20 (Regular) \$15 (Student or Senior) \$25.00 (Household) \$50 (Patron)

____ Please send my Kite by email; I would like to save trees, and also save ASE both postage and printing costs.

In addition to membership, please accept my contribution of \$ _____ to help further local projects/education.

Name:

Phone:

Address/Zip:

Email:

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

OR pay online at www.auduboneverglades.org/membership

2. Membership through the National Audubon Society. If you join **ASE** through **National Audubon** you will receive 6 issues of the Audubon magazine, and membership in Audubon of Florida. Mail your \$20.00 check along with your information to: **National Audubon Society** 225 Varick St., 7th floor, New York, New York 10014 Attn: Chance Muehleck. Include the code **C9ZE000Z**

As a NAS member you will need to request the Kite newsletter to be emailed or mailed to you by contacting Gail Tomei. Call her at 561-969-7567 or email to blackgrouper@comcast.net.