



EVERGLADE KITE

NEWSLETTER

Monthly Newsletter for Audubon Everglades
VOL 58 | Issue 8 | April 2018



Photo: Reddish Egret © Paul Thomas 2009. All rights reserved.

Bird of the Month: Reddish Egret

by Clive & Celecia Pinnock

The Reddish Egret (*Egretta rufescens*) is considered to be one of North America's most uncommon herons. It is most easily recognized within its home range by its hunting habit of frantically scurrying through the shallow lagoons of coastal tidal flats and salt marshes within protected bays and estuaries. This hunting tactic is combined with sudden changes in direction, wing flapping, and occasional leaps into the air as it chases its primary quarry of small fish (minnows, mullets, and killifish). Its varied diet also includes frogs, tadpoles, crustaceans, and aquatic insects.

These long-legged, long-necked waders measure about 30" in length and have a wingspan of 46".

They have a long straight heavy bill, a rufous head and shaggy rufous neck feathers. There are two color morphs: the more common dark morph (slate and reddish brown) and the scarcer white morph. Unlike for the Little Blue Heron, these colors are not age related. The birds are dark or light for life after the initial downy nestling stage. During the breeding season the bill color in adult birds is bicolored with pink at the base extending halfway to the tip and the remainder black; in nonbreeding and juvenile birds, the bill is totally dusky colored.

The species range includes the Gulf Coast of the United States, Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean and the Bahamas. A considerable portion of the

population is said to be reclaiming its historic breeding range in Florida. The birds were severely impacted by the plume trade of the 1800s, but, since the enactment of protection laws, they have begun to regain their resident status in many areas. Some colonies are still being threatened, however, by disturbance from boaters and, to a greater extent, by the development of coastal areas, which contributes to the reduction of foraging areas, especially in Florida.

Photographers – please note that next month's May Bird of the Month is the GREAT BLUE HERON.

UPCOMING TRIPS

APRIL 2018

Always check the website calendar for details, registration links and last minute changes. Unless otherwise specified, trips are "Just Show Up."

- 07 SAT (6:15A-1P)** ★ **Pelagic (SFAS)** 📄 💰 (Paddy Cunningham/Toe Torres) ● 🚶 ⚠️
- 07 SAT (7:30A-12P)** **STA-1E** 📄 (Rick Schofield, coord.) ● 🚶 ⚠️
- 07 SAT (8:15A-11:15A)** **Riverbend Park (Birding by Bike)** (Vicki Rogerson) ● 🚲 ⚠️ >1.5 Bike rental opens at 8am; No skinny tires.
- 08 SUN (8A-10A)** **Wakodahatchee** (Chris Golia) ● 🚶 <1 🚶 ♿
- 08 SUN (ALL DAY)** **Tigertail Beach / Marco Island** 📄 💰 (Rick Schofield) ⚠️ >1.5
- 09 MON (7:30A-9:30A)** **Green Cay** (Paton White) ● 🚶 <1 🚶 ♿
- 11 WED (7:30A-11:30A)** **Loxahatchee NWR** 💰 (Rick Schofield) 🚶 ⚠️ >1.5 ♿
- 14 SAT (8A-10A)** **Spanish River Park** 💰 (Luis 'Beto' Matheus) ● 🚶 ⚠️ 1.5
- 14 SAT (3:30P-7P)** **Flamingo Quest (STA-2)** 📄 (Chuck Weber) ● 🚶 ⚠️
- 15 SUN (ALL DAY)** ★ **Everglades National Park** 📄 💰 🚶 ♿ (Mark Cook) ● 🚶 ⚠️
- 20 FRI (8A-10A)** **Wakodahatchee** (Valleri Brauer) ● 🚶 <1 🚶 ♿
- 22 SUN (8A-10A)** **Frenchman's Forest** (Melanie & Steve Garcia) 🚶 ⚠️ 1.5
- 28 SAT (7:30A-10A)** **Peaceful Waters** (Scott Zucker) 🚶 ⚠️ 1.5 ♿
- 28 SAT (8A-12P)** ★ **Evergreen Cemetery/Richardson Park (with SFAS)** (Paddy Cunningham) 🚶 ⚠️ >1.5 ♿
- 28 SAT (3:30P-7P)** **Flamingo Quest (STA-2)** 📄 (David Simpson) ● 🚶 ⚠️
- 29 SUN (8A-10A)** **Spanish River Park** 💰 (Kenny Miller/Marcello Gomes) ● 🚶 ⚠️ 1.5 ♿

JUNE 2018

The following advance registration field trips in June will become available for online registration on their corresponding dates during the month of April, e.g., registration for the June 02 trip begins Apr 02.

- 02 SAT (7A-12P)** **STA-1E (June Challenge)** 📄 (Chuck Weber) ● 🚶 ⚠️

TRIP KEY

EFFORT/DIFFICULTY

- **Easy:** Boardwalk or paved level surface; or birding mainly from bike / boat / auto
- **Moderate:** Improved trail; dirt and uneven surfaces
- ◆ **Challenging:** Improved or unimproved trail; uneven, rocky, and/or wet surfaces

DISTANCE

- 🚶 ⚠️ ○ **Sitting /Driving:** no walking required
- 🚶 <1 **Short:** less than 1 mile
- 🚶 1.5 **Medium:** 1-1.5 miles
- 🚶 >1.5 **Long:** more than 1.5 miles

OTHER

- ★ New and/or unique trips
- 💰 There is an associated cost
- 📄 Advance registration required
- 👤 Family-friendly
- ♿ Handicap Accessible
- 🌐 Audubon Everglades member priority

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

April 2018
by Paton White

Dear Audubon Everglades members, this will be the last letter you receive from me, but I won't be disappearing! I will still be doing the raffles, attending the general meetings and board meetings and, for a short time, acting as social secretary. Your present board is amazing, and with the addition of Gerry Felipe, I truly believe that it is ready to jump to new heights.

At the April meeting you will be voting to accept the slate of officers the nominating committee (Anne Hctor, Mary Connelly and Linda Humphries) presents and to accept the budget the budget committee presents. We reviewed the budget at the March meeting. Please contact Louann Dillon, Cathy Hanson, Anne Hctor, Linda McCandless or me, if you have any questions. [You have access to the bylaws](#), and I encourage you to call me with questions. One important change for you is that the local membership name will change from "chapter-only" to "Friends of Audubon Everglades." The dues and perks will remain the same. The second important change is the membership year. Presently it is January 1- December 31. We propose to change it to June 1- May 31 and give you a five-month extension on your local membership. Your present membership

will be good until June 1, 2019! This change is very important for membership, the photography club, and the trip coordinator.

Scott Zucker and Mary Young have just completed a very successful second stewardship course and, as a follow-up for members of both classes, they initiated a Stewardship Opportunity Day, where the graduates get to meet leaders from many of the agencies that we work with.

Vicki Rogerson has assembled a coalition of organizations to bring Doug Tallamy to speak. He will be sponsored by Audubon Everglades, FAU, our local chapters of both the Native Plant Society and the North America Butterfly Association, and Mounts Botanical Garden. I am extremely proud of the way our organization seeks to collaborate with other organizations. You can read more about Doug Tallamy's presentation in Vicki's article, but I personally want to encourage each of you to attend! It is a must for plant, butterfly, and bird lovers as well as anyone who cares about the environment!

Thank you for supporting and encouraging me for the last four years!

Profile: A Tribute to Paton White

by Kristen Murtaugh



Paton White, the outgoing president of Audubon Everglades, likes to work quietly behind the scenes. She does not like to see her name "in lights" and did not want to be the subject of a Kite profile. However, her friends and colleagues on the Board and in the community wanted an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of her four years as president of the Board and, at the same time, to let members know a little more about this extraordinary woman.

This tribute profile is created from information and remembrances that Paton's friends and colleagues provided me. Paton did review the piece for factual accuracy; but she was not allowed to edit the glowing words used to describe her!

Paton grew up outside of Philadelphia and enjoyed the Philly music scene of the 1960s, following music groups before they became popular. She is a graduate of Bradford College. After her marriage she moved to St. Louis, where she raised her sons and began a lifetime of energetic and diverse volunteer work. She joined the Junior League in St. Louis, was a member of the board of the Science Museum, and ran an enormous benefit for the St. Louis Zoo. Non-profit organizations around the Midwest recognized Paton's effectiveness in board leadership and hired her to give them workshops on board management. She has built and managed several successful for-profit businesses as well, including a commercial aviary. One of Paton's friends used the word "multifaceted" to

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Annual MEETING, Potluck Dinner and LECTURE: “History of the Plume Trade”

Marty Baum, Indian Riverkeeper

by Gail Tomei

APR

03

Tuesday, April 3, dinner 6PM, meeting, elections & lecture 7PM

Meeting and program are free and open to the public. Bring a dish and join us in rooms 101 and 102 at FAU Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, 6301 Summit Blvd (near Jog Road) in West Palm Beach. Doors open at 5:30PM, food will be served at 6PM, and our annual meeting will start at 7PM. Come join in the fun - we look forward to seeing you!

Note: People with last names beginning with A-J please bring main dish, K-R bring salads & veggies, S-Z bring desserts. Please bring ready-to-serve food; we have no kitchen. We will supply the drinks. Paton White has donated a large orchid arrangement for a special raffle.

Come hear Marty Baum talk to us about the history of the Plume Trade, which dealt in exotic feathers for the fashionable hats of the gilded age and sparked the 20th Century Conservation movement and the pioneering efforts of the early Audubon Society.

About Marty Baum:

Born and raised in Dade County, Marty Baum is a 6th generation Floridian. He has been the Executive Director/Indian Riverkeeper of the Indian River Lagoon in Jensen Beach since 2012. The mission of the Indian Riverkeeper is to protect and restore the waters and the tributaries, fisheries and habitats of the Indian River Lagoon, North America's most diverse estuary, through advocacy, enforcement and citizen activities. Marty's family has been connected with life along the shores of the Indian River Lagoon since his great-great-grandfather, Hannibal

Dillingham Pierce, arrived near what is now Titusville in 1866. Stomping the Florida Everglades throughout his life, a hunter, a fisherman, an environmentalist and a clean water advocate, he has studied and pursued an understanding of Florida's hydrology, geohydrology and ecology throughout his life. Marty has been involved with water issues since the early 1990s, including the St. Lucie River Initiative, and the inception of the Rivers Coalition in 1998. A passionate advocate for the wellbeing of the Indian River Lagoon, Marty is proud to serve as the third Indian Riverkeeper and to educate people about the history of pioneer life along Florida's Atlantic Coast as a speaker and re-enactor at seminars and museum functions.

Also at the meeting, our expert, Clive Pinnock, will speak about the April Bird of the Month, Reddish Egret.



Photo: Marty Baum



Photo: Antique Photograph of Plume Trade Hunter

Audubon Everglades Hosted Kids Program at Outdoor Adventure Day

by Vicki Rogerson



Photo: Audubon Everglades volunteer, Sue Revie (center), is an invaluable component of our educational activities!

Audubon Everglades kicked off the month on March 3 with a lot of fun at Outdoor Adventure Day in John Prince Park. This free event is put on by PBC Parks and Recreation and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Families can participate in fishing, canoeing, archery, climbing rock walls, riding bikes, and visiting great exhibitors and food trucks. Audubon Everglades offered Doug Tallamy-themed activities that teach about the important relationships between insects, native plants, caterpillars, land birds, and the ecosystem we are all a part of. Kids enjoyed making caterpillars out of recyclable paper plates, and many of them generously donated their caterpillars to Audubon Everglades to be part of a visual display showing that each nestling bird eats approximately 100 caterpillars per day. We displayed them at the March chapter meeting, and they will be on display at our April General Meeting. We also did a Bird Olympic event called Track, Field, and Air. Kids ran a 20-yard dash while everyone cheered them on, and we timed them. We converted their time to mph and then compared their times to flight speeds. As you can imagine, even the fastest runners were not as fast as most birds. They were consoled by the fact that they were fast for humans, and that, if it came down to a race, they could all beat the American Woodcock, which peaks at about 5 mph.

A huge thank you to the volunteers that made this happen: Paton White, Sue Revie, Roberta Wesley and her friend, Fred Quan, and Marcia Yeip. Their kindness and interest in interacting with children is very much appreciated.

CONSERVATION: DISTRICT AND LNWR RESOLVE LEASE AGREEMENT

by Scott Zucker

In what can best be described as a throwback love feast moment at the most unlikely of places, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) headquarters, the SFWMD and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which have publicly been at odds, managed to end their 18-month impasse over the fate of the Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge. Just past noon on March 8, Ernie Marks, the SFWMD Executive Director, handed a copy of the newly signed 20-year Refuge lease to Mike Oetker, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Deputy Regional Director, Southeast Region.

"It's kind of like renewing their vows," said Celeste De Palma, Director of Everglades Policy for Audubon Florida, describing the event.

As part of the negotiations, the Refuge acquired the Strazzolla tract, which will extend the Refuge property further northeast along its eastern border. The new lease puts the onus of invasive species management on the SFWMD and does away with the performance measures included in the former lease. However, the Service must contribute a minimum of \$1.25

million each year or the lease is terminated, and any year it fails to contribute at least \$2 million, a year is subtracted from the lease. So, while it is possible that the lease could end early, this is not expected to happen if the Federal Government continues to minimally fund invasive exotic species removal for our National Wildlife Refuges. Local and national environmental non-profits are already working to help secure the necessary funding.

Paton continued from page 2

sum up the diversity of Paton's skills, "from changing out her garbage disposal unit to running effective board meetings!"

Paton moved to Florida 29 years ago. One of her most impressive commitments to our community has been her work at the Mounts Botanical Garden, where she has been a moving force for some 25 years. Currently she is Recording Secretary of the Board of Directors. While on staff, Paton ran the Mount's events and still chairs the special event committee; she greatly expanded the plant sales and continues to organize them; and she initiated the Mother's Day Garden Tour and continues to pick the homes for the tour. Paton is a Master Gardener and helps friends with designing their gardens.

Family, friends, and pets are the most important elements of Paton's life. The highlight of her year is the annual summer stay at the Adirondacks camp her great, great grandfather built. As a child she passed many happy days there with her cousins, who were like brothers and sisters. As a grandmother now herself, Paton enjoys revisiting the camp with her children and grandchildren. Her home is filled with furniture and items dating back to the 1800s that have been handed down in her family. Paton will be your friend for life and has remained in contact with friends from as long ago as kindergarten. She is caring and generous. One of her fellow board members said that Paton may be "leading volunteer home care in Palm Beach County. I cannot recount the number of

times that I have called her while she was taking care of a friend, neighbor or family member, or when she was driving them to a doctor and hospital, and I can't remember ever hearing a word of complaint."

An active member of Audubon Everglades for 12 years, Paton has been our President for the last four years. Under her leadership the chapter has experienced growth both in number of members and in impact and credibility in the conservation community of South Florida. She has brought to her presidency the ability to think and act strategically, strong leadership skills, excellent people skills, and expertise in getting things done. Paton is a hard worker and a team builder. She knows how to handle sensitive situations effectively. She is gracious and diplomatic. She encourages dialogue and wants to hear both sides of an issue so that a middle ground can be found. She resolves conflicts with tact. One of the board members commented on the positive support she gives them on the ideas they bring forward. It is this leadership style that has attracted new people and new energy to the organization. A hallmark of Paton's presidency has been the expansion of partnerships with other conservation and environmental organizations in the area. More opportunities for members to develop and express their interests and skills have been developed in such groups as the Budget Committee, the Photography Club and the Conservation Committee. Audubon Everglades' education initiatives have multiplied for both children and for adults; bird trip opportunities have continued to be one of Audubon Everglades' great strengths. Paton's vision and drive

have helped make our chapter a leading organization among Florida Chapters. In October 2016 Paton accepted on behalf of Audubon Everglades the 2016 Chapter of the Year Award at the Florida Audubon Assembly. The award was given "for an extraordinary commitment to building a community of fun, education and conservation." At that same Assembly. Paton herself was awarded the Leadership Award. Paton wrote in her President's Letter, ". . . as we all know, you only get recognized for leadership when the people around you are doing amazing things. I thank you all for making me look good."

Celeste De Palma, Director of Everglades Policy for Audubon Florida, writes that Paton is "quite the magician when it comes to finding new talent. Her leadership style centers on empowering people to take on leadership roles and trusting in their abilities to breathe new life into the chapter. Her "rising tide" approach has allowed the chapter board to rise and shine – ASE has a fantastic board with each member bringing a unique set of talents reflected in the excellent set of programs ASE offers to their growing membership."

Paton, one of your friends told me that, when you wake up every day, you tell yourself that this is going to be the best day ever. You have given many of those best days to making Audubon Everglades not only look good but be a model organization. Our hats are off to you in tribute and gratitude!

MAY	SAVE THE DATE
16	Wednesday, May 16 • 7pm

SPECIAL EVENT: An Evening with Doug Tallamy

by Vicki Rogerson

Who is Doug Tallamy? Why he’s important, and why you should attend “Bringing Nature Home: Renewing Our World with Native Plants: An Evening with Doug Tallamy”

Doug Tallamy wrote a book called *Bringing Nature Home; How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants*. He’s a professor at the University of Delaware, Chair of the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology, and an entomologist who studies the interactions of plants, insects and other species. Did you know that we all need to eat plants or eat something else that eats plants? That something else is most often insects, and, if you care about birds, you had better care about insects and arthropods (spiders). Spiders eat insects. It is estimated that sixty to eighty per cent of a hummingbird’s diet is made up of small spiders and insects. Native insects eat native plants because they co-evolved together. Exotic plants like Crape Myrtle, Hong Kong Orchid, Jacaranda and Podocarpus, to name just a few, are from other countries. They are not edible to most of our insects nor are they larval hosts for our butterflies and moths. “Ninety-six percent of terrestrial birds rear their young on insects.” Every bug in your yard is

a meal for someone. When a bird looks at your yard, what does it see?

Dr. Tallamy explains these complex relationships in an eloquent and entertaining manner with the science to back it up. We have over 40 million acres of lawn. We add 2 million acres per year of development, and we tie it all together with 4 million miles of roads. We have over 400 species of North American birds at risk of extinction, and our natural areas are not large enough to sustain our birds. Songbirds have lost over 40% of their numbers since the 1960s (in our lifetime), and common species like the Northern Bobwhite and Eastern Meadowlark have declined 82% and 72%, respectively. Not only have their numbers been sharply reduced; they are no longer in areas where they once had healthy populations.

Dr. Tallamy will weave together the narrative of biodiversity, gardening for life, caterpillars and

oak trees, native plants, and how we can help save or delay many species from extinction. You will learn how to make small changes that make a big difference!

I urge you to join us for an evening with Doug Tallamy. Audubon Everglades, the Atala Chapter of the North American Butterfly Association, FAU Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, Mounts Botanical Garden of Palm Beach County, and the Palm Beach County Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society have teamed together to bring Doug Tallamy to Palm Beach County for a life-changing event you will never forget.

“Managing landscapes in this crowded world carries both moral and ecological responsibilities that we can no longer ignore.” Doug Tallamy

[Purchase your tickets here.](#)

Conservation: PBC Natural Area Funding Dominates Public Comment Portion of PBC Commission Meeting

by Scott Zucker

Audubon Everglades and other local conservation non-profits, sportsmen’s groups, residential communities, businesses, families, two former Environmental Resources Management directors, and two former county commissioners gathered at the Palm Beach County Governmental Center on a balmy afternoon this past month to encourage our PBC Board of Commissioners to find a dedicated funding source to insure that our 37 PBC Natural Areas, comprising over 31,000 acres, are properly maintained for the foreseeable future. While there was no item on the monthly agenda to address the funding shortfall, during the “Matters by The Public” item, some 20 presenters and many more supporters urged the seven commissioners to find the necessary funding.

Audubon Everglades and the Sierra Club Loxahatchee Group presented each of the commissioner’s envelopes containing about 900 cards completed by Palm Beach County residents as part of our “Have a Heart” joint

campaign to urge the commissioners to find the necessary money. Former PBC commissioners, Karen Marcus and Jeff Coons, representing Sustainable Palm Beach County, committed to work with the current commissioners to help find the necessary funds within the budget. A mother clutching a toddler and infant described how valuable their visits to the Natural Areas are to her family, calling their outings “nature therapy.”

While the commissioners never publicly committed to finding the necessary funding, all who responded, particularly Commissioners Paulette Burdick and Melissa McKinley, indicated that they would work toward finding at least a temporary funding fix for 2019 and a permanent dedicated funding source for our invaluable and beloved PBC Natural Areas. This is an issue Audubon Everglades will be monitoring closely.



The Audubon Everglade Stewardship Training Class, with instructor Lee Lietzke, ERM Environmental Analyst, visit Yamato Scrub, one of the diverse thirty-seven PBC Natural Areas that may face a funding shortfall in 2019. © Scott Zucker. All rights reserved.

Audubon Everglades Hosted Kids Program at Natural Areas Event

by Vicki Rogerson



At ERM's Natural Areas Festival we made nests out of paper bags and filled them with shredded paper. We turned Easter eggs into baby birds and filled them with seed.

Audubon Everglades attended Environmental Resources Management's wonderful Natural Areas event on March 10. It was a beautiful day for attendees to participate in the early morning 5K and enjoy hiking, kayaking, and the great line-up of exhibitor tents. Audubon Everglades' "fun kids' craft" taught families about the importance to a bird of its diet of caterpillars and spiders. They learned that 96% of land birds feed their young insects and that, if they had native plants and trees in their yards, developments, and schools, they were ecosystem heroes! The kids and parents were stunned to find out that an oak tree is the larval host to over 500 species of butterflies and moths, and that non-native trees provide very little or no benefit to our ecosystem. Each participant made a recyclable bird's nest out of a brown paper bag and paper nesting material. Recycled plastic eggs

were used to create nestlings with their beaks (gapes) open to receive caterpillars from their parents. Kids practiced making a gape with their mouths and received a (gummy worm) caterpillar to stave off hunger. Once they realized that one baby bird in the nest could eat approximately 100 caterpillars per day, their mouths really gaped!

Big thanks to Sheri and Gerri Felipe, who were the very early birds, and to Elaine Siegel, Sue Revie and Kat Rahla, who made this event go smoothly and left a wonderful impression on those they talked to.

Please consider volunteering in some of our activities as these members did. You will be thanked by your chapter, and your time will be well spent sharing your experience and knowledge.

An Idea Worth Repeating

by Vicki Rogerson

Audubon Everglades volunteers Kat Rahla and Vicki Rogerson accompanied Bright Futures Academy Global Competency Director, Pat Rentz, and environmental science teacher, Savannah Artusi, and twelve of their 7th and 8th grade student Ambassadors to Wakodahatchee Wetlands on March 14. We rode the bus from the school to Wakodahatchee, and we were greeted by Robert Nelton, the Sr. Public Relations Specialist from the PBC Water Utilities Department. Rob made sure we were able to park our bus and guided us along the boardwalk. He shared the perfect amount of information for a group of students who were being rewarded for their Green School Program efforts.

We saw a Green Heron nest alongside the boardwalk and watched the nesting heron get up and rotate her eggs. Wood Storks were flying in from everywhere, and we saw chicks of every age. We talked about sexual dimorphism (thanks, Clive) in male and female Anhingas and saw one Anhinga catch a fish. The Snakebirds, as Anhingas are commonly called, were putting on a show drying their wings, feeding their chicks, and gliding through the water with just their necks showing before disappearing. Lots of alligators and turtles were out. The Purple Martins were active in their Audubon Everglades house. The kids spotted many iguanas, and Rob told us that they had never seen one disturb bird nests or eat eggs. While they are an invasive species, they do not seem to be causing a problem at Wakodahatchee. Native Blue Flag Iris was blooming along the back stretch. Double-crested Cormorants were abundant and allowed the students to compare their fishing style to that of the Anhingas. Glossy Ibis, Little Blue Herons in breeding plumage, Purple Gallinules, Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks, and many more good birds were present.

Over 25 species were spotted and remarked upon. Our time passed by quickly and we hated to leave. None of the students had ever been to Wakodahatchee Wetlands or seen anything like this. Wouldn't it be nice if every student in PBC could experience nesting season at Wakodahatchee? School bus, *\$300 - learning experience priceless.

A special thank-you to Kat Rahla, Pat Rentz, Savannah Artusi, Robert Nelton and the PBC Water Utilities Department for making this wonderful day happen.

*The Audubon Everglades Education budget was able to make a donation to bring this price down a bit.

AUDUBON EVERGLADES HOSTS EMMY AWARD WINNING PHOTOGRAPHER

by Scott Zucker



Photo: Club President Dr. Pete Lekos presenting Dr. Bob Raichelson with a Blue Ribbon Merit Award during one of our recent photo competitions. © Lora Lekos. All rights reserved.

Phillip Rather visited the Audubon Everglades Photography Club on March 26 to present his exquisite program, "Photographing the Loggerhead Shrike." This is Rather's five-year photo study documenting the life cycle of the Loggerhead Shrike from egg to adult and its unique strategy of impaling its captured prey. Rather previously received an Emmy for his technical work on the daytime Soap Opera, *The Edge of Night*.

During the April 23 monthly club meeting, accomplished photographer Alan Lectner will be judging our fourth competition of the year, which will include "Open Nature" and "Black and White," our featured special nature subject that night.

On February 26 our previous month's presenter, Steven Roth, was our guest judge for our Macro and Open Nature photo competition open to both novice and advanced photographers.

Please join us at our next meeting or outing and make your photography more rewarding and enjoyable.

Club meetings begin at 7 PM at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 1925 Birkdale Drive, Wellington FL 33414

For more information, please contact Dr. Pete Lekos: PhotographyGroup@auduboneverglades.org
201-600-6463

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENT: EARTH DAY APRIL 21

Audubon Everglades will be organizing the all native Adopt-a-Tree program on Saturday April 21, 12 Noon-5PM for the 2018 Lake Worth Earth Day at Gray Mockingbird Community Garden. Debbie Smith and Vicki Rogerson will be teaming up for this event. Please contact Vicki Rogerson, Education@AudubonEverglades.org if you're interested in volunteering.

[View the 2018 Earth Day Flyer.](#) [View the Earth Day website.](#)

MACRO AND OPEN NATURE PHOTO COMPETITION, FEBRUARY 26, WINNERS:

NATURE SUBJECTS: MACRO (ADVANCED)

Honorable Mention:

Nancy Freeman, Gulf Fritillary Butterflies Mating

Lora Lekos, Pipeline Swallowtail Larva with Everted Osmeterium

Don Marchetto, Skipper

Tom Rasmussen, Florida Softshell Turtle

Lora Lekos, Orb Weaver Spider

Award of Merit:

Scott Zucker, Passiflora Coccinea (Red Passionflower)

NATURE ASSIGNED SUBJECT: MACRO (NOVICE)

Honorable Mention:

Cindy Darling, Common Green Birdwing Butterfly

Charlene Rafael, Pollinator

Cindy Darling, Honeybee

Charlene Raphael, Malachite

Award of Merit:

Edwin Wilkie, Halloween Pennant Portrait

NATURE OPEN: (ADVANCED)

Honorable Mention:

Lora Lekos, Fighting Terns

Susan McKemy, "Violet-ear" Hummingbird

Tom Rasmussen, My Lunch

Award of Merit:

John Sutton, Osprey on the Hunt

Bob Raichelson, Green-winged Teal

Don Marchetto, Northern Cardinal

Nancy Freeman, Male Anhinga in Breeding Colors

NATURE OPEN: (NOVICE)

Honorable Mention:

Edwin Wilkie, DC Cormorant Collecting Nesting Material

Julie Zambory, Vermillion Flycatcher

Rich Raphael, Two Butterflies

Award of Merit:

Edwin Wilkie, Pied-billed Grebe Portrait

Susan Stechnij, Open Mouth Fish

Charlene Rafael, Macaw

Audubon Everglades volunteers Kat Rahla and Vicki Rogerson accompanied Bright Futures Academy Global Competency Director, Pat Rentz, and environmental science teacher, Savannah Artusi, and twelve of their 7th and 8th grade student Ambassadors to Wakodahatchee Wetlands on March 14.



REMINDER: memberships expired 12/31/17. Renew your membership either online with PayPal or use the form below and mail your check.

JOIN AUDUBON

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

There are two ways to join Audubon Everglades:

CHAPTER-ONLY MEMBERSHIP: An annual membership that starts on January 1 and runs through the calendar year. All your membership dues are put to use supporting local conservation projects and educational programs. You receive 12 issues of the Kite newsletter and priority for some special trips and events.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP: includes membership in Florida Audubon and Audubon Everglades plus one year of the Audubon magazine. Join online at Audubon.org by selecting JOIN. Or send a check for \$20 per person along with your address and email to National Audubon Society, PO Box 97194, Washington DC 20090-7194.

The Audubon Everglades Kite newsletter is available by email only.

Yes, I want to become a chapter-only member of Audubon Everglades.

Join now using a credit card: Go to AudubonEverglades.org/membership to complete the application.

Or, complete this form and mail your check to: Audubon Society of the Everglades, PO Box 16914, West Palm Beach, Florida 33416-6914

Please check one: \$25 (Regular) \$20 (Student) \$20 (Senior) \$35 (Household*) \$75 (Patron*)

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*If you selected Household or Patron Membership, please provide the names of all members living at the same address. (2 adults and children under age 18)

Household/Patron Additional Names _____
