



EVERGLADE KITE

NEWSLETTER

Monthly Newsletter for Audubon Everglades
VOL 59 | Issue 4 | December 2018



Photo: Eastern Kingbird © 2018 John Sutton. All rights reserved.

Bird of the Month: Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*)

by Clive & Celecia Pinnock

The Eastern Kingbird is a member of the “tyrant” flycatcher family. They are called “tyrant” because of their aggressive response (mobbing) towards other species they consider threats in their territories. The targets of their attacks include others of their own species, crows, hawks, kestrels, snakes and squirrels. They have even been known to knock unsuspecting Blue Jays out of trees.

Eastern Kingbirds are a medium-sized flycatcher with a black head, slate gray back, and a black tail with a broad white terminal band. The bird’s underparts are white with a pale gray wash across its breast. It also has an orange-red crown patch, which is seldom seen,

except occasionally during courtship displays or when the bird is in an excited state, for example, chasing potential predators from its territory.

It is the most wide-spread of the kingbirds throughout North America and inhabits a wide variety of habitats, including open areas such as woodland clearings, roadsides, farmlands and orchards, grasslands with scattered trees and bushes, and openings near water (marshes and ponds). As their family name implies, these birds feed primarily on flying insects, which they typically spot from perches in a tree or on a fence post or wire. Once their prey is spotted, they fly out to catch it in mid-air or pluck it from foliage while hovering.

The bulk of their summer (nesting) diet is made up of insects and, to a much lesser degree, available berries and fruit. This diet strategy is drastically switched, however, on their wintering grounds at South American forest edges, where berries and fruit become the staple and where the birds forage in small flocks instead of singly or in pairs as they do on their nesting grounds in North America.

Photographers – next month’s January bird of the month is the [Northern Mockingbird](#).

UPCOMING TRIPS DECEMBER 2018

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

04 TUE (4P-6P) Pine Jog (Birding before Dessert)
(Lauren Butcher)

06 THU (7:30A-9:30A) Green Cay (Paton White)

07 FRI (8:30A-10:30A) Loxahatchee NWR
(Clive Pinnock)

08 SAT (6:30A-9:30A) Loxahatchee Slough
(Dale Gawlik)

09 SUN (8A-12P) STA-2 (Dan O'Malley)

12 WED (7:30A-11:30A) Loxahatchee NWR
(Rick Schofield)

15 SAT (8A-10A) Green Cay (Valleri Brauer)

16 SUN (7:30A-12P) STA-1E (Rick Schofield, coord.)

16 SUN (8A-10A) Wakodahatchee (Chris Golia)

30 SUN (ALL DAY) Christmas Bird Count (Chuck Weber)

FEBRUARY 2019

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

02 SAT (7:30A-12P) STA-1E (Rick Schofield, coord.)

09 SAT (8A-12P) STA-2 (Shorebird Survey)
(Brian Garrett)

09-10 SAT-SUN (ALL DAY) Viera Wetlands/Merritt Island
 (Valleri Brauer)

17 SUN (7:30A-12P) STA-1E (GBBC) (David Simpson)

21 THU (4:30P-6:30P) Grassy Waters (Sunset Canoe Fly-in) (Cindy Bush)

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
- Short:** less than 1 mile
- Medium:** 1-1.5 miles
- 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 Friend priority

Monthly MEETING and LECTURE: "The Challenges of Wildlife Filmmaking"

Tom Fitz: Executive Director for Schoolyard Films

by Gail Tomei, Mary Dunning

DEC
04

Tuesday, December 4 at 7PM • Holiday Dessert Party at 6:30PM

Meeting and program are free and open to the public, in rooms 101 and 102 at [FAU Pine Jog Environmental Education Center](#), 6301 Summit Blvd (near Jog Road) in West Palm Beach. We look forward to seeing you there!

Special Holiday Dessert Party at December 4 Meeting

You are special, so we are going to treat you sweetly! Join your Audubon Everglades friends from 6:30-7PM for a catered dessert party. The attendance at our general meetings has grown so large that we no longer have room to do a potluck supper. See you for a sweet surprise before the meeting!



Award-winning cinematographer Tom Fitz will speak about the challenges of wildlife filmmaking at the Audubon Everglades December 4 program. Fitz, a Palm Beach County resident, has been documenting our planet's natural wonders on the land and under the sea for over thirty years, across all seven continents and five oceans, including under the ice in the polar regions.

ABOUT TOM FITZ

Fitz has received numerous awards for his work with the BBC (Blue Planet, Blue Planet II, Planet Earth,

Planet Earth II), PBS, National Geographic, Discovery and others, including four Primetime Emmy Awards for cinematography and two for outstanding series, and a BAFTA Award (2018) for Blue Planet II.

Fitz's recent work includes Protect Your Water, a twelve-part series of short videos produced by Brick City TV about the growing water crisis in Florida. Inspired by his own children, Fitz co-founded the non-profit Schoolyard Films in 2008 to introduce students, grades K-12, to natural history and the environment through films, which he shoots, produces, and distributes for free, along with study guides. Among the Schoolyard-produced films is Coral Reef Rescue, a film that examines the state of the coral reef ecosystem in the Florida Keys.

"Florida faces many environmental challenges but none more crucial than water – whether it's our drinking water from the Florida aquifer, lakes, canals or ocean," Fitz said. "In both my freelance work and through Schoolyard Films, I try to tackle these issues to help educate and promote solutions as well as the importance of stewardship of all habitats."

Also, at the meeting, our expert, Clive Pinnock, will speak about the December Bird of the Month, the Eastern Kingbird.

January's Monthly Meeting will be held Tuesday, January 8 (second Tuesday) at 7PM at FAU Pine Jog Environmental Education Center. The speaker will be Sandy Reed from Tampa Audubon, presenting "Brown Pelican Project."

Profile: Celecia and Clive Pinnock

by Kristen Murtaugh



Photo: Clive and Celecia Pinnock © 2018 All rights reserved.

My recent morning interviewing Celecia and Clive for the Kite was fun. They are energetic, committed stewards of our environment, eager to share their love for nature and their knowledge of its many denizens, and they have led busy, interesting lives.

Clive was born in Kingston, Jamaica. He can't remember a time when natural history was not a passion for him. As a child, watching ants and raising ant colonies, catching wild birds, and trying to breed frogs appealed to him more than marbles or soccer. He loved the family trips to the seaside, where he pored over shells and aquatic creatures in the shallows. At 16, the family moved to Brooklyn, NY. Clive earned a bachelor's degree in biology from City University of New York and an associate degree in business from Taylor College. His first job, at a large chain pet store, did not ideally combine his dual interests. It entailed cleaning out cages and working the cash register!

Clive began volunteering at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge in Far Rockaway and was hired there. His strong drive and will to learn was soon recognized, and he became a Resource Manager and then Wildlife Biologist. At Jamaica Bay he established and maintained several ecosystems, improving nesting habitat to bring back native fauna that had been extirpated, including box turtles, spring peepers, and painted turtles. The Eastern Chipmunk was Clive's special interest; he wrote proposals and received funding from the National Park Service to ready the appropriate habitat and bring chipmunks from various populations on Long Island to establish a good gene pool. In 1989 Clive was one of 20 employees of the National Park Service hand-selected for an intensive year-long training in

managing natural resources. The members of this group, called "the creamies of the crop," attended a series of seminars taught by top faculty at universities across the country (for example, UC Davis for vegetation management, Oregon State University for fisheries management, Clemson University for microcomputers). After this training, Clive went to Glen Canyon in northern Arizona as a Natural Resource Manager, following his former supervisor at Jamaica Bay, who had recommended him for the program. What a dramatic difference, not just habitat and climate, but size – Jamaica Bay comprises 9,155 acres, Glen Canyon 1,250,000 acres! But the goal of the training had been to prepare him to be a resource manager at any of the parks in the National Park Service system. Highlights of his Arizona experience included working with endangered sheep and Peregrine Falcons, taking a nine-day raft trip on the Colorado River to study birds, and receiving his scuba certification and becoming a member of the crew that recovered drowning victims from Lake Powell.

After 9 years in Arizona, Clive's family urged him to return to the more populated east coast. They came to Florida, where Clive's brother lived, and Clive got a job at Lion Country Safari. A year later he became the Manager of Okeehetee Nature Center. There he established several programs and exhibits in Marine Science, Raptor Ecology, Science for Seniors, Deer Management, and Gopher Tortoise Monitoring and participated in annual bird surveys. He retired from Okeehetee after 16 years. Currently he is back at Lion Country Safari, managing the Lorikeets.

Celecia, or "Cici," as many know her, was raised in the military, moving every 2-4 years. Travel has always been a huge part of her life. She has family

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION CELEBRATION

by Vicki Rogerson



Your chapter will be having a volunteer appreciation event for YOU at Busch Wildlife Sanctuary. Busch Wildlife is passionate about Florida's wildlife and natural resources, just like Audubon Everglades. [Check them out at and you will see what a wonderful organization and location this is.](#)

We planned a buffet-style chili luncheon (vegetarian and non-vegetarian options) with all the toppings, cornbread, salad and dessert. There will be an exclusive Bird Encounter program for our group with several of our favorite birds making an appearance. Our activities will include a mini birding contest, bird charades, prizes and raffle.

You may think this celebration is not for you, but we assure you that it is. Our chapter is 100% volunteers, and we want to celebrate with our past, present and future volunteers. Whether you helped move chairs at one of our programs or are a past president, we would love to have you join us. If you are thinking about volunteering or have some great ideas to share with us, this would be a wonderful opportunity.

It is not too soon to R.S.V.P.! **Please respond by January 2 to Vicki Rogerson at 561-352-7835.** Let us know if you would like to bring a guest or if you are interested in carpooling. We will be answering questions at the December 4 program, and you can R.S.V.P. then in person, if you would like. We hope you can attend.

Treat Yourself to a Unique Learning Adventure: THE 2019 CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP TRAINING COURSE

by Scott Zucker and Mary Young

JUST ANOTHER WEEKEND FOR AUDUBON EVERGLADES

by Vicki Rogerson



Photo: 2018 Stewards at Pine Jog Environmental Center learning about Pine Flatwood habitat from instructor, Kristi Moyer. © Mary Young 2018. All rights reserved.

Imagine walking through native habitats with distinctive flora and fauna that you have not experienced before....

Once again, Audubon Everglades is offering a seven-week Conservation Stewardship Training Course, an exciting educational opportunity to explore the beautiful natural habitats surrounding us in Palm Beach County. The course will run on consecutive Mondays, from February 4 to March 18, 2019, from 9AM to 1:30PM.

Fifteen expert instructors will engage participants in understanding how five fragile Florida habitats sustain plants, birds and wildlife, cope with invasive flora and fauna, manage species of concern, and adapt to growth and climate change. They will also explain the function and importance of the Greater Everglades ecosystem.

This basic environmental education course will include field exploration, complemented by classroom study, an advocacy component and special presentations during the provided catered lunch each Monday. Throughout, stewards will be guided in developing a personal plan of action that will empower them to aid and advocate for their environment.

To bring you this experience, Audubon Everglades is partnering with the [PBC UF/IFAS Extension](#) with

support from [Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge](#), [Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center](#), and [PBC Environmental Resources Management](#).

The syllabus includes the following topics/natural areas:

- **Feb. 4:** Two topics: Ecological Overview of Greater Everglades including PBC and pollinators in a Butterfly Garden to be held at UF-IFAS Extension at Mounts Botanical Garden
- **Feb.11:** Freshwater Wetlands to be held at ARM Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge
- **Feb.18:** Pine Flatwoods to be held at Cypress Creek Natural Area/Classroom: Jupiter Farms Park
- **Feb.25:** Scrub to be held at Yamato Scrub Natural Area/Classroom: Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Boca Raton of Boca Raton (classroom)
- **March 4:** Beaches and Dunes to be held at Juno Dunes Natural Area/Classroom: Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center
- **March 11:** Estuaries & Hammocks to be held at John D. MacArthur Beach State Park/Classroom: First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Palm Beaches
- **March 18:** Conservation Advocacy to be held at UF-IFAS Extension at Mounts Botanical Garden

[View the complete 7-week course syllabus.](#)

Wow! This past November 10-11, Audubon Everglades volunteers led three field trips and participated in two educational events. On November 10 we attended the Migration Celebration at Green Cay. Project Perch was on hand to add to the great content we were able to share with attendees. This year we played Bird Friend or Bird Foe with adults and young alike. Participants discovered how to take simple actions to protect birds against dangers found around the home and beyond. For example, many learned about shade-grown coffee for the first time. They didn't realize that growing coffee in the shade saves a forest from being cut down to grow plantation-style crops. Considering whether something helps or hurts birds started many discussions on how people can lessen or eliminate dangers to birds, and it was a lot of fun. Big thanks to Sue Revie and Kat Rahla, and the Project Perch team of Susan Davis, Anne Hctor, and Chris Golia. Green Cay received numerous comments from attendees on the high quality and strong educational nature of their experience and reported approximately 1,250 visitors!

The very next day found Sue Revie, Kat Rahla, and Alan and Cherie Summersgill with back-up from Chris Golia handing out native plants to approximately 300 people. We were stationed at the fabulous Lerner Garden for the Annual Native Plant Garden Tour of the Palm Beach County Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society (PBCC FNPS). We were able to give each attendee two Simpson Stoppers and a Fogfruit. As a partner with PBCC FNPS and the Atala chapter of the North American Butterfly Association, we not only had the fun part of giving native plants to people, but we also handed out information and answered questions about the importance of native plants to birds. It's one thing to talk about growing native plants to help birds, other pollinators and wildlife. It's another thing entirely to show people the incredible amount of birds, bees, and butterflies EVERYWHERE in a native garden and give them a few plants to try for themselves. It was just another weekend for the awesome volunteers of Audubon Everglades!

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CURRENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

WE TREASURE YOUR GIFT OF TIME AS A VOLUNTEER!

by Susan McKerny

Our volunteers allow us to educate and inspire people to conserve wildlife, especially birds, and the environment that supports them. Wouldn't you like to join us?

If you have a special interest or talent or simply want to give back to Audubon Everglades as a volunteer, please check the list of volunteer opportunities for an area where you might get involved.

If your interest area is not listed and you are ready to volunteer, get in touch with us and let us know your interest, since there are new ways to get involved all the time.

If you would like to see if you qualify for one of our volunteer needs or would like more information, please send an email to President@AudubonEverglades.org. We look forward to having you on our volunteer team!

CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer Coordinator

Monthly Meeting/Program Support Team

(audio-visual support and room set-up and closing)

Citizen Science Bird Projects

(Audubon Eagle Watch and Purple Martin Project)

ONE OF THE
GREATEST GIFTS
YOU CAN GIVE IS
YOUR TIME

#VOLUNTEER

Communications

(Kite Newsletter, Social Media)

Community Event Volunteer Opportunities

Conservation Advocacy Team

(conservation policy advocates and public advocacy outreach)

Education and Outreach

(Plants for Birds program, Speakers, Pathfinders and Science Fair judges)

Pinnocks continued from page 3

connections to the Air Force, Navy, and Army. As a child she lived all over the U.S., including South Carolina and Southern California, and, when a junior in high school, she moved to Hawaii with her family. The move was not easy, given her age, but she ended up loving Hawaii and still feels a closeness to the culture and land. Cici had done JROTC in high school and enlisted in the Army during her senior year. Unfortunately, she suffered a knee injury and was medically discharged. Her first marriage was to an Army soldier and the family bounced around a lot. After her divorce Cici settled in the San Francisco Bay area. There she got her certificate in Travel and Tourism. She worked for Avis for several years, then for a Hawaii tour wholesaler. To be closer to her family, Cici moved to North Carolina, where she worked as a TWA reservations agent. She loved helping people find deals and enjoyed the opportunity to travel. In 1998 Cici moved to Washington State as a reservation sales agent for Northwest Airlines. Tired of the pressure of phone sales, she left Northwest and moved to a small town in Idaho on the Washington border. There she worked for Alaska Airlines, where she was part of a multi-tasking ground crew, talking on the phone with the pilots (no observation tower!), flagging the flights on the tarmac, loading and unloading baggage, and checking passengers in and out. Cici found this work exhilarating and lots of fun. When airlines cut back staff after 9/11, Cici, always the entrepreneur, got her commercial driver's license and went to work driving school buses. Since she didn't drive buses in the summer, she got a part-time job as a secretary at an air conditioning company. That turned into a full-time job. Meanwhile she was getting

her bachelor's degree in hospitality management at the university of Phoenix. She said she was inspired to be a positive role model to her kids, showing them that you could set a goal for yourself and go after and attain it. And, as if this weren't enough, Cici became a franchise travel agent. This "kept her busy" and "motivated." While she booked all kinds of travel, cruises were her specialty, and business trips to tour ships were an important part of her training. In 2011 she attended a convention in Ft. Lauderdale.

This trip to Florida turned out to be a significant turning point in Cici's life. One day she was eating at the counter at the Applebee's on 441 and Southern Boulevard, and guess who was seated next to her! Clive and she struck up a conversation at that meal that hasn't ended in seven years. After the 6-day convention, during which she and Clive got together as often as possible, Cici went home and, 11 days later, she moved to Florida. Her first job was driving school buses for Palm Beach County. She transitioned her 10-year-old cruise business here. And she and Clive were married. Cici has worked for the Palm Beach County Tax Collector for six years and is now a supervisor in the payment processing department.

Clive and Cici share a passion for nature, especially birds, but also fish. Clive can't remember how long he has been a member of Audubon Everglades, but he brought Cici to meetings and they went on field trips together. It was clear Clive knew birds, so he was asked to lead bird walks. He enjoys being able to share his knowledge of wildlife ecology, and he thinks his field trips are different because he works to

show the big picture. In other words, he's not going to just tell you the names of the birds in a wetland or a mangrove swamp, he's going to tell you about the ecology of the locale, how and where the different birds fit in their habitat community. The Pinnocks live in Loxahatchee. They have 2 and a half acres with abundant bird feeders, bird baths, and nest boxes. Their shared interests extend to marine life. Cici had developed a keen interest in fish and the sea when she lived in San Diego. She has her scuba certification now, and the two are diving partners.

Clive has been doing the Bird of the Month (BOM) presentations and articles for 10 years now. He is happy that people seem to be retaining the information he shares. He says that Cici is an equal partner in BOM. She has brought him into the 21st century. Before Cici, he displayed his pictures on posters that he would hold up at meetings; now he has effective Powerpoint presentations developed by Cici. Cici also does research and finds relevant articles and information about the birds they will be profiling.

Both Clive and Cici are passionate about nature, from the smallest to the largest creatures, and they want to share their enthusiasm and expertise. Both are enthusiastic educators. They hope someday to combine their shared interests and expertise in travel, hospitality, and field biology in an ecotourism endeavor. Cici said to look for Clive with his binoculars and guide book and her with her camera and mobile apps. They complement each other ideally!

Scholarship Opportunity for College Students:

We are offering scholarships for college students to take this course free of charge. If you are a college student or you know one who would be interested, this application is to be completed and submitted by January 16, 2019. [Scholarship Application](#)

Save this date: The Monday after the course ends, March 25, 2019 from 9AM to 1PM, we will be sponsoring a Marine Debris Symposium on the problems of plastics for birds and marine life and what we, as

citizens, can do to help. Current and former Stewards, as well as anyone on the waiting list, will be invited to attend.

Course Fee: \$98.00 provides seven catered lunches. If you are a current "[Friend of Audubon Everglades](#)" member prior to registration and complete this course (which means attending six of the seven sessions, including the last session), a \$15 discount will be refunded at the final session.

[Register for Conservation Stewardship Course HERE](#) or visit [Eventbrite.com](#) and search for "2019 Conservation Stewardship Training Course." For more information email: stewardship@auduboneverglades.org or call (561) 876-8815. The Conservation Stewardship Training Course is open to the public, so be sure to tell your conservation-minded friends.

AUDUBON EVERGLADES PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

by Scott Zucker



Photo: Members of the Audubon Everglades Photography Club visit Butterfly World. © Julie Zambory 2018. All rights reserved.

Do you have great photographs of mammals, insects, amphibians, invertebrates, reptiles, or fish? If you do, then this is the perfect time to join the Audubon Everglades Photography Club, since Zoology will be the subject of our December Special Nature competition on December 17. Our guest judge will be Alan Fabricant, a widely published and award-winning nature, travel and sports photographer. Members will also have the opportunity to submit bird, botany and landscape photos in the regular Nature Open category.

Thirty Photography Club members, armed with their cameras, invaded Butterfly World, on November 10. Club members delighted in the thousands of

native and exotic butterflies fluttering about and sometimes even landing on them. All had a great time photographing the butterfly magic on display. Many also took advantage of the opportunity to take photos of the many exotic birds and flowers that make Butterfly World such a special place to visit.

The Photo Club's next field trip is to the popular Wakodahatchee Wetlands on December 1. The group will meet at the beautiful 100-acre constructed wetlands at 7:30AM to capture the variety of flora and fauna in the morning light. As always, Club President Pete Lekos and the more experienced photographers will be offering individual instruction to the novice photographers on how to capture great images.

To learn more about the upcoming competitions, future presentations, and field trips scheduled for this year, and to find out more about membership and meetings (time and place), [visit our page on the Audubon Everglades website.](#)

LOOKING AHEAD Early January Trips

05 SAT (7:30A-12P) STA-1E 
(Brian Garrett)  

06 SUN (8A-10A) Pine Glades
(Mark Cook)   

JOIN AUDUBON

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

There are two ways to join Audubon Everglades:

FRIENDS OF AUDUBON EVERGLADES MEMBERSHIP:

All your membership dues and contributions are put to use supporting local conservation projects and educational programs in Palm Beach County. You will receive 12 issues of the Kite newsletter, priority for some special trips and discounted rates at some events and vendors. Join using the PayPal link off our website or by mailing the attached membership application. The Audubon Everglades Kite newsletter is available by email only.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP:

includes membership in Florida Audubon and Audubon Everglades plus one year of the Audubon magazine. [Join online here.](#)

Your NAS membership does not grant you the special privileges and discounts afforded to those who are local Friends of Audubon Everglades members. If you choose to join us through National Audubon Society, please also consider becoming a Friend of Audubon Everglades to support local conservation and education initiatives.

Yes, I want to become a member of FRIENDS OF AUDUBON EVERGLADES

Join now using PayPal. 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 (Single) \$20 (Student) \$20 (Senior) \$35 (Household*) \$75 (Patron*)

Please feel free to give above the membership amount with a contribution of \$ _____

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

*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 _____
