



EVERGLADE KITE

NEWSLETTER OF THE
AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE EVERGLADES

Serving Palm Beach County, Florida

Volume 53, Number 2

November 2012

CALENDAR

Tues. Nov 6, 7:30 p.m. General meeting. Pine Jog Elementary, WPB.

Sat. Nov 3, 8:00 a.m. STA 1E. Car Pool around Storm Water Treatment Area managed by South Florida Water Management District. Space limited. Call Linda to register: 561-742-7791. Audubon Society of the Everglades invites Tropical Audubon to join us.

Sat. Nov 10, 8:00 a.m. Riverbend Pk, 9060 Indiantown Rd., Jupiter. Meet at south end of main parking lot, near canoe rental trailer. Leader: Ed Kawecki

Mon. Nov 12, 7:30 a.m. Wakodahatchee Wetlands, 13026 Jog Road, Delray Beach. Meet at top of boardwalk. Leader: Paton White.

Fri. Nov 16, 3:30 p.m. Green Cay Wetlands, 12800 Hagen Rand Rd., Boynton Beach. Meet at Nature Center main door. Leader: Valleri Brauer

Sat. Nov 17, 7:30 a.m. Tropical Audubon invites you to Everglades National Park. Leader John Boyd. Entry \$10 per car. Meet in parking lot Coe Visitor Center.

Sat. Nov 17, 9:00 a.m. Daggerwing Nature Center, Boca Raton, South County Regional Pk, 11200 Park Access Rd.

Sun. Nov 18, 8:00 a.m. STA 1E. See details above. Space limited. Call Linda to register: 561-742-7791.

Sat. Nov 24, 8:00 a.m. Green Cay Wetlands. Meet as above. Leader: Ben Kolstad.

Program for Tuesday, November 6, 2012

Birding in Peru and Panama

Claudine Laabs, past president of ASE, is leading trips to Peru and Panama in the next few months. Her trips come highly recommended by members who have traveled with her previously. Join us to see what awaits you if you travel with her!

This tropical travelogue features the beautiful birds found in the Peruvian Amazon and the tropical rainforests of Peru. Woven through the program are Claudine's interesting comments on ecology and history. Claudine grew up in Florida and attended U. of Florida majoring in English with minor and graduate studies in Fine Arts. She has lived in New York City, Los Angeles, London, Paris and Tehran.

"Since living in Florida again, I have fallen in love with the Everglades and developed an interest in tropical ecology. I have traveled extensively to photograph in Central and South America - Peruvian Amazon -17, Panama -8, Belize - 3, Brazilian Pantanal -2, Galapagos -1 and Yucatan numerous times. My favorite Florida photo locales include Wakodahatchee, Green Cay, Florida Bay, Anhinga Trail, Blue Cypress Lake and the beaches. I go out looking for something magical. I believe in magical reality...it's still a matter of luck, and being in the right place at the right time." says Claudine.

You will find her program magical too.

Science Fair Judges Needed

Are you looking for an opportunity that can inspire you and leave you feeling proud of our middle and high school students? If so, consider volunteering to judge at the 2012 Palm Beach County Science and Engineering Fair on Wednesday, December 5th. This is where our middle and high school students' journey to higher level competitions begins. You can contribute your time and expertise as other ASE volunteers have done! You will come away amazed at the depth and breadth of these projects. Contact Susan Snyder for details. roysue@bellsouth.net or 627-7829

BIRD-of-the-MONTH PHOTOS

Please send December Bird-of-the-Month pictures (jpg format) to be posted on the AudubonEverglades.org web site by November 20 to SheilaElliot@yahoo.com. Identify the name for credit, and if there is anything specific to look for in your picture (like banded, in molt, etc) feel free to add a few words for the caption. Please check out and enjoy this month's picture gallery of the Ring-billed Gull at the end of the November 6 meeting announcement!

The Everglade Kite

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

President

Cynthia Plockelman 561-585-1278

1st Vice President

OPEN

2nd Vice President

Linda Humphries 742-7791

Secretary

Alan Parmalee 498-0996

Treasurer

Janet Schreiber 689-2530

Field Trips

Valleri Brauer 385-9787

Membership

Gail Tomei 969-7567

Bird ID

Clive Pinnock 233-1400 x4

Library

Anne Hooctor 601-8007

Conservation

Rosa (Cissie) Durando 965-2420

Education

Susan Snyder 627-7829
roysue@bellsouth.net

Community Relations

Debbie Smith 967-4879

Publicity

Sheila Hollihan-Elliott 540-5200 (w)

Sales

Stella Rossi 732-4786

Hospitality

Mary Lou Hall 553-0216

Kite, Webmaster

Ben Kolstad 367-7689
ben@kolstad.com

ASE on the Internet

<http://www.auduboneverglades.org>

Audubon Society of the Everglades, incorporated in 1966, serves communities in Palm Beach County. Our purpose is to promote the conservation of wildlife and the natural environment and to advance human understanding of our place in the total ecological system.

Auction Items Needed

Chinese auction will be held at our covered dish dinner meeting in December. Surely you have something you could donate? Bring it to the November meeting. To donate or volunteer, contact Paton White 818-7574 or patonwhite@aol.com.

President's Column

Cynthia Plockelman

It's supposed to be "Fall," correct?? and "fall migration" should be over! How many of us actually experienced "fall migration" on our own property this year? The migrants should be gone by now, or the stragglers doing their best to plump up on the "local" food supply, for the strenuous trip south. How many of us actually had warblers in our gardens this year?? How many of us knew it was actually "Fall" by the weather indicators??

How many of us are wondering if we just got left out in 2012, or is this some evidence for global warming? That's a scary issue, which certainly would have implications for migrant birds and migration. How many of us have worked hard over the years to have our properties be welcoming to birds: planting native flora, reducing quantities of water-guzzling lawns, providing water supply???

Here in South Florida—lot of us think it has been a "lean" year for migrants!! We have made the effort for our properties to be attractive to birds, all year round! Yet, this year there have been few rewards—from the discussions I have heard.

I do a daily list of birds visiting my yard. And, few migrants have shown up. The summer inhabitants, such as chimney swifts, came and left pretty quickly! You get used to having those wonderful birds in summertime and don't want just a brief visit, for raising chicks!

Looking around my neighborhood, I see lots of room for improvement. I have also just seen Doug Tallamy's new cd on why/how birds need native plants for raising young and migration—which could be an encouraging thing to those on the fence about "native" flora and natural gardens. Bet you, that it will be on the list for programs next year!

We have to help and encourage our feathered friends!!

BIRDING IN PANAMA

The best of Panama—March 22-28

Three Days in the rain forest—three days in the cloud forest!

\$1695 includes airfare. Call Claudine for more information 561-655-9779

Cruise the Upper Amazon —May 18-25

Visit the Payaca-Samiria Reserve —a/c cabins w/private baths
daily excursions —\$2600 plus airfare

Call Claudine for more information 561-655-9779

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)

WILDLIFE SURVIVAL STRATEGIES

Clive Pinnock

Part Two: Examples of survival strategies

Some examples of the two broad categories (behavioral traits and anatomical features) of strategies used by various species are seen below:

Behavioral Traits

- Speed (Peregrine Falcon, cheetah, Mako Shark – predators; rabbit, gazelle, blackbuck – prey)
- Stealth (owls, cats, crocodilians – predators; mice and rats – prey)
- Ambush (snapping turtle, pike, tiger, cheetah, lion, largemouth bass, ant lion)
- Feigning death (hognose snake, opossum)

Anatomical Features

- Camouflage or cryptic coloration (certain caterpillars; owls; pin-cushion urchin; leopards; tigers; nighthawks, some moths)
- Warning (aposematic) coloration – (certain caterpillars; coral snake; lubber grasshopper; yellow-jacket wasps; poison dart frogs; blue-ringed octopus; skunk; Gila monster; some moths)
- Counter shading – (Great White Shark; penguins; flounder; stingray; gray squirrel; frogs)
- Mimicry (Viceroy & Monarch Butterflies; ant-spiders & ants; spider-ants & spiders; bee and wasp mimics – some flies and beetles; bird dropping mimics – bird dropping caterpillar and bird dropping spider; milk snake; Scarlet kingsnake) – Note: Mimicry can be behavioral as well as anatomical (e.g., some non-venomous North American snakes will ‘rattle’ their tails in dry leaves to simulate the sound of the venomous rattle snake).
- Chemicals
 - non-lethal – distraction/deterrence (skunk; bombardier beetle; musk turtle; octopus)
 - lethal – venom (rattle snake; anemone; Portuguese-Man-O-War; Box Jellyfish)
- Heat-sensing (pits in a rattle snake’s upper jaw – pit vipers)
- Low-frequency electrical detection (Hammerhead Sharks – ampullae of Lorenzini –tiny holes on the underside of the shark’s head)
- Strength (bears, lions)
- Body armor – (armadillo; turtle/tortoise; hermit crab; porcupine; some urchins; hedgehog; Indian rhino; pangolin; shrimp)
- Urticating hairs (urtication) – venomous/stinging hairs covering the body of some animals (tarantulas; saddleback and puss caterpillars)

Although some species might rely more heavily on one type of strategy than another, many species will use a combination of strategies in their arsenal as the needs arise. It is also important to remember that as predators develop, fine-tune and apply traits adopted by their species for capturing prey, prey species are equally developing, fine-tuning and applying strategies to avoid being caught. This is the ecological “Arms Race” (bobcat vs. rabbit: stealth vs. speed; cheetah vs. gazelle: speed vs. speed & quick directional changes).

[Editor’s Note: Part One of this column appeared in last month’s edition of the Kite, available on our website: www.auduboneverglades.org]

Thank You Migratory Bird Count Volunteers

Linda McCandless	Simoni Castro
Al Pelligrinelli	Valerie Brauer
Ben Kolstad	Gail Tomei
Charlie Frederickson	Ann Weinrich
Rob Hopper	Joanna Hollis
Clive Pinnock	Donna Sisesa
Pam Schneider	Linda Byrnes
Ethel Kujanpaa	Rick Byrnes
Claudine Laabs	Mary Young
Dorothy Brindle	Scott Zucker
Debbie Smith	Steve Garcia
Simon ?	Melanie Garcia
Cynthia Plockelman	Chuck Weber
Walt Hackenjos	Jo Key
Marcie Kapsch	Cathy Burdette
Alan Summersgill	Greg Braun
Cherie Summersgill	Susan Snyder
Kay Brennan	Anne Hochter

Bird of the Month: Ring-billed Gull

November’s bird of the month, *Larus delawarensis*, is one of two fairly common gulls in Palm Beach County. It’s slightly larger than Laughing Gull, our other common larid, although both are considered medium-sized gulls. The bill of the adult is yellow with a black ring (hence the common name), whereas Laughing Gull has a black bill (reddish in breeding adult). In winter, look for the light gray back of Ring-billed (Laughing is much darker) and the white or streaked head (Laughing is darker or white with a prominent “smudge”). As with all gulls, though, age is important: Adults are clean gray above, with a white head, body and tail; their black wingtips are spotted with white. They have yellow legs and a yellow bill with a black band around it. Nonbreeding adults have brown-streaked heads. During their first two years, though, Ring-billed Gulls are a motley brown and gray with a pink bill and legs. Find out more at our monthly meeting!

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

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

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 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.