

The Warbler



Volume 49, Issue 385

October, 2003

Points of interest:

- Come to BCAS exciting activities, events, field trips, and programs scheduled in 2003-2004!
- Great meeting place at South Plantation High School, Media Center!
- The Warbler is available online at browardaudubon.org

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President's Letter by Barry N. Heimlich

There is a growing sense of excitement at Broward County Audubon Society. New people on the board of directors have brought new vigor and talent. Sandy Koi put together an outstanding speakers program for the Everglades BirdFest. Jacqui Sulek joined our Conservation Committee and will spearhead our participation in Audubon of Florida's initiative to build an Audubon Center in Broward County. Also, her husband George Baldwin is handling chapter publicity. Paddy Cunningham, one of Broward County's most respected birdwatching leaders and teachers, has become Fundraising Chair. She is also adding to the quality and quantity of our birding trips and will be writing a column in *The Warbler* on birds and birdwatching. Jeremy Taylor is using his computer skills to establish a chatroom and bulletin board on the internet.

We are always receptive to individuals who wish to join the leadership and work on chapter projects. Currently, we are seeking a new Recording Secretary and an Editor of *The Warbler*. Our thanks go to Connie Couture and Barbara Pryor who have both done outstanding jobs. If you're interested in joining our outstanding leadership team, please contact me at 954-776-5585 or barrynh@browardaudubon.org.

Thanks to fall migration, October is an outstanding birdwatching time. Please attend our program on migration on October 16, and don't miss *Buteos on the Beach*, our 1-day outing in the Florida Keys on October 18. Your board of directors invites you to come to our meetings, events, and field trips. We are confident that you will be engaged, entertained, informed, and stimulated. And we welcome your ideas, suggestions, and comments. Emails, letters, and telephone calls are welcome.

2003-2004 Meeting Schedule (mark your calendars!!)

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| October 16, 2003 | Casey Lott—Hawk Migration |
| November 20, 2003 | Sandy Koi—Virtual Birding/Birding Software |
| December 11, 2003 | Allison Austin—African-American Outreach |
| January 15, 2004 | Speaker TBA—Everglades |
| February 19, 2004 | Speaker TBA—Wood Storks Nesting |
| March 18, 2004 | Audubon of Florida President |
| April 15, 2004 | Barbara Zias—Nesting Least Terns |
| May 20, 2004 | Jacqui Sulek—South Florida Butterflies |
| June 17, 2004 | Sea Turtles Nesting—John Lloyd State Park |

Everglades BirdFest Will Be A Great Event

Everyone knows that the exotic Everglades are unique in the entire world and are a diverse set of endangered ecosystems critical to the Florida peninsula, the Caribbean and the mid-Atlantic Ocean. And that it's the home of the American Alligator, North America's largest reptilian predator. In the wintertime, the Everglades are a birder's paradise with an abundance of sub-tropical species. It is the wintering ground for hundreds of northern species of birds. Yet surprisingly, there is not a single birding event in the Everglades except for a few commercial birding tours and a few day trips offered by local Audubon chapters. That is why Broward County Audubon Society decided that a birding festival in Everglades National Park was long overdue.

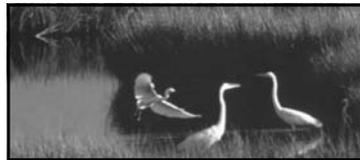
January 17-19, 2004, when the birds are most abundant and the weather's great, we will spend 3 full days birdwatching at both Shark Valley and main sections of Everglades National Park. The package includes luxury coach transportation to sites and trails, 7 meals, and 2 nights at Flamingo Lodge. Thanks to Sandy Koi's hard work, we have an outstanding lineup of exhibitors and speakers on birdlife, wildlife, habitats, comparative ecology, natural history, and Everglades conservation and restoration. Chapter members are eligible for a \$50/person discount.

For full information: Contact Broward Audubon Society, P.O. Box 9644, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310, (954) 776-5585, <http://www.browardaudubon.org/birdfest>.

—Barry N. Heimlich



Come to the exciting
BCAS Everglades
BirdFest in Everglades
National Park!!



Everglades National Park

- 2 nights at famous **Flamingo Lodge**
- 7 meals
- Bus transportation
- Naturalist guided birding
- Seminars and Exhibitors

Everglades BirdFest



Spoonbills, Storks
and Ecosystems
January 17-19, 2004

- Go to www.browardaudubon.org
- Email: birdfest@browardaudubon.org
- Call: (954) 776-5585



Broward County Audubon Society

P.O. Box 9644,
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310

Join The
New BCAS
Yahoo
Group!!

What is the BCAS Yahoo Group? -Jeremy Taylor BCAS Board Member & Owner/Moderator
Yahoo Groups are web-based discussion groups offered as a free service by the internet company Yahoo. One way you can think of it is a sort of electronic bulletin board and information exchange service. There are many features of Yahoo Groups which are available to anyone with a valid Yahoo ID. Some features include a photo album, message archive, file storage, links, and a calendar. Although you must have a Yahoo ID (which is free) to access the group website, anyone with a valid email address can receive new messages posted to the group. I decided to create a Yahoo Group for Broward County Audubon Society as a way to supplement the communications options for BCAS. In addition to our website and *The Warbler*, the Yahoo Group will provide a forum for the exchange of information about BCAS. It is also a great place to discuss recent bird sightings, post trip reports, ask advice about birding, talk about environmental issues pertaining to South Florida, and more! The group is open to all BCAS members and anyone else who might be interested. Remember, this is a **free** service. For more information, visit http://groups.yahoo.com/group/broward_audubon or send me an email: JeremyJTaylor@webtv.net. To join, send a blank email message to broward_audubon-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or send me your email address and I can add you!

Buteos on the Beach: October 18, 2003

Come join us for *Buteos on the Beach*, a one day BCAS trip on Saturday, October 18, 2003 in the Marathon area. Hawkwatching at its best in the Eastern U.S.!! This site, in the last year, had in excess of 12000 hawks with about 16 species making an appearance. It is an excellent opportunity to upgrade your buteo ID skills. Members of Hawkwatch International will give pointers in how to discern a Coopers from a Sharpie, a Merlin from a Kestrel, etc. In 2001, at this event, we had over 100 Peregrines fly over, and last year, we were there when a first year female thought to be from the Yukon, was caught and banded.

We will meet at Curry State Park at 10 AM. This

is just south of Duck Key at MM 56. Meet at the elevated Observation Platform. You might want to bring lunch and drinks. A beach chair is a good idea, as is sunscreen. There are picnic tables, and a bathing beach too. It takes about 3 hours to get to Curry State Park from Ft. Lauderdale. Return at your own leisure or stay over in Marathon. There are excellent facilities in Marathon, both lodging and restaurant wise.

If interested, meet at Fred Griffin's office at 7320 Griffin Road, Davie, for carpooling. Suggested donation to BCAS for this 1-day event is \$10.00/person. If you are going, please call Fred Griffin at 954-587-8008, or email aeg1933@aol.com.



Join us Saturday, October 18, in the Marathon area for Buteos on the Beach! Hawkwatching at its absolute best!

Birding Hot Spots by Paddy Cunningham Pascatore

Early Fall Migration-Although the weather is still hot and summer like, the birds think it is fall. Fall migration of shorebirds and warblers is well underway. It has been a particularly good year for warblers and a few specialties.

Birch State Park-The warblers have been plentiful so far with up to 10 species being seen in a day, including Worm-eating, Yellow and Prothonotary Warblers. In mid September, 200 Bobolinks flew over the park. Also seen were Barn Swallows, along with some Purple Martins, Cliff and Bank Swallows. The new migration areas have attracted a Reddish Egret and Roseate Spoonbills. Recently seen were loads of Eastern Kingbirds (200), Cooper Hawks, and Black-whiskered Vireo. Nearby Evergreen Cemetery attracted 3 Swainsons Warblers.

Secret Woods Nature Center-Has attracted many warblers, including Northern Waterthrush, Worm-eating and a Hooded Warbler. The Tools for Better Birding class got a look at a Black & White Warbler and a Spotted Sandpiper flitting down to the New River, adding new life birds for new birders.

Everglades National Park-Our own Bryant Roberts found an extremely rare Black-faced Grassquit in the pinelands of Long Pine Key the second week of September. The re-introduction of the Eastern Bluebirds has been a success in that for the first time ever I spotted 2 in the pinelands along with a flock of 11 Northern Bobwhites. Finally, in late August, birders from AIB, Broward and Tropical Audubon visited the sod fields along US 27. We spotted the sought after Upland, Pectoral and Solitary Sandpipers. Also seen at Belle Glade Marina were Red-eyed Vireo, Yellow, Yellow-throated and American Redstart Warblers.

Look Forward To In October-Hawk Migration-Hawks will follow the warblers down in October especially Broadwings with their wide bands on their tail. Look for kettling of large groups of Raptors near the beach, focusing on the wing silhouettes to identify different species. Join the annual Buteos on the Beach which will focus on this spectacle with trips to the Keys and the Hawks Alert research station on 10/18/03. Adventures In Birding will conduct a day trip for hawks on 10/10/03.

To report bird sightings, call Paddy Cunningham Pascatore at Secret Woods Nature Center at (954) 791-1030, or send email to her at pacunningham@broward.org

This season's birding trips: Mark your calendar

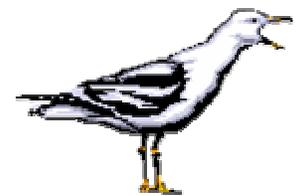
The birding field trips are designed for the novice as well as the experienced birder. Suggested donation to BCAS for local trips is \$5 per person. Children under 6th grade accompanied by adults are free. For more information, please call Fred Griffin at 954-587-8008, 954-962-9840 or email aeg1933@aol.com.

October 18 Buteos on the Beach, Marathon. Meet 10 am-Curry State Park-See advertisement above

November 15 Loxahatchee NWR and Wakotahatchee Wetlands, Boynton Beach.

December 20 Christmas Bird Count, Broward County.

Look for more trips scheduled for 2004 in future editions of The Warbler.



Come see the fabulous birds of Florida with an experienced birder!!

Broward Audubon Society
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Phone: (954) 776-5585
Newsletter email: warbler@browardaudubon.org

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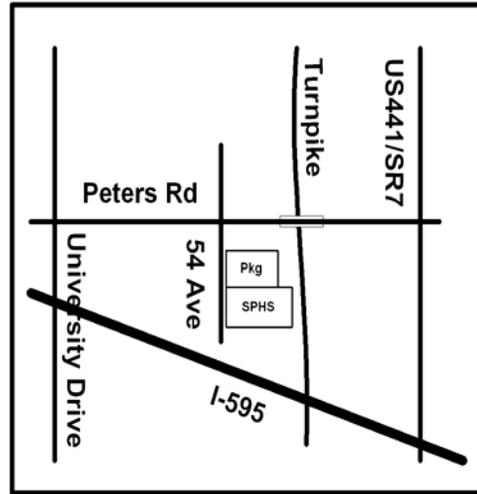
**We're on the web:
browardaudubon.org**

*Conservation, Community,
Commitment.*

Meetings Are Held At:

South Plantation High School, Media Center,
1300 SW 54th Ave., Plantation, FL 33317

At Peters Road and 54 Ave., just west of Florida's Turnpike between US 441/State Road 7 and University Drive. Take Peters Road to SW 54th Ave., go South to the first parking lot on left.
SPHS Tel: (954) 797-4600



The Newsletter of the Broward County Audubon Society

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- Birding Hot Spots

October 16, 2003 Meeting

7:00 PM - Refreshments

7:30 - 9:00 PM - Program

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**South Plantation High School
October 16 Guest Speaker:**

Casey Lott

Come see a very exciting and informative program focusing on Hawk Migration provided by Casey Lott from HawkWatch International!! Join us at South Plantation High School in October for his terrific presentation about Hawk Migration!!

Arrive early and get a good seat!!

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