

Spring 1988

## Newsletter, Florida Audubon Society - Florida Ornithological Society, Spring 1988

Florida Audubon Society

Florida Ornithological Society

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### Recommended Citation

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FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY -- FLORIDA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
NEWSLETTER

Volume 14, Number 2

Spring 1988

The FAS-FOS Newsletter is published jointly by the Florida Audubon Society and the Florida Ornithological Society as an information exchange among persons interested in the conservation, research, and enjoyment of birds in Florida.

Editor: Dr. Herbert W. Kale II, 1101 Audubon Way, Maitland, FL 32751 (407/647-2615)

FLORIDA RARE BIRD ALERT

Enclosed with this issue of the FAS-FOS Newsletter is the new listing of the Florida Hotline. Only those who responded to the notice in the Winter issue (No 14(1)) are listed. If you failed to respond and still desire to participate, simply follow the instructions on the first page of the list. Publication of this list was made possible by a donation to Florida Audubon by Bob Brown, past president of F.O.S.

FLORIDA BREEDING BIRD ATLAS NEWS

F.O.S. Flockbusting Weekend, May 27-29

Where: Chipley-Holmes County area of Region 2. For motel reservations or campground information (Falling Waters State Park) call state coordinator Wes Biggs ( [REDACTED] )

We urge everyone who can to help with this blockbusting party in a rarely birded part of the state with many interesting north Florida species.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION, NOTICES

Florida Specimens of Great Blue Herons--

Scot Wood, Carnegie Museum of Natural History desires specimens of Florida Great Blue Herons. If frozen, wrap well in newspaper, box and air express to Dr. Wood at Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. He will reimburse shipping costs. Be sure to phone him ahead to alert him of the shipment ( [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] )

Florida Tern Colony Guidelines--The Nongame Program has prepared guidelines for the protection of tern colonies. Copies are available from FG&FWFC, 620 S. Meridian St. Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600.

Natl. Audubon Res. Dept Internships--Four to 6-month internships are available, beginning

in August 1988 to assist studies of wading bird ecology in Florida Bay and the Everglades. Responsibilities will include assisting in radio-tracking Great White Herons by ground (difficult terrain with dense mangroves and mud banks), boat and airplane; long hours of behavioral observations of herons (both day and night); monitoring reproductive activity of wading bird colonies; analysis of wading bird food samples; and maintaining the data base. Applicants must have a serious interest in avian ecology and be willing to work independently in an isolated location for long hours in the hot, humid, buggy south Florida environment. Applicants with experience in power boat handling, radio telemetry, and/or flying in a small plane are desired. Salary is \$220/month plus housing. To apply, send a letter of interest, curriculum vita, and names of two references to Dr. George V.N. Powell, Natl. Audubon Soc., 115 Indian Round Trail, Tavernier, FL 33070. Phone 305/852-509

Rooftop tern colony information requested--

Last year the Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission's Nongame Wildlife Program conducted a population status survey of Least Tern nesting colonies in several coastal areas. We located 3,500 pairs of terns in more than 100 colony sites. More than 40% of the colonies were on roof-tops. Roof-top colonies now produce the majority of Florida's Least Terns. To accurately assess the current population status of these birds, we must locate as many of these sites as possible. If you know of or locate any roof-top tern colonies, please contact Mr. Tim O'Meara at 1-800-342-9620. All information will be available for the Florida Breeding Bird Atlas project.

Workshops for birders and ornithologists--

The Institute for Field Ornithology, a part of the University of Maine at Machias, offers



several 1-week college credit workshops, beginning June 19-24 (Bird population studies), July 3-8 (Warblers), Jul 31-Aug 6 (Seabirds of NW Atlantic), Aug 7-12 (Shorebirds), Aug 21-28 (Seabirds of N Pacific--Seattle), and Sep 18-24 (Raptors at Cape May). Costs vary, for info contact Univ. of Maine, 9 O'Brien Ave, Machias, ME 04654.

The Wildlife Preservation Trust International offers 6, 10, and 16 week intensive programs in the captive breeding of endangered species on the Isle of Jersey, Channel Islands, U.K. Applications for 1989 courses (dates by arrangement) must be submitted by June 1, 1988.

Orange Audubon Society has several volumes of the Florida Field Naturalist (1980-1984 complete, 1985-3 issues, 1986-2 issues) available. Price: donation to OAS. If interested contact Loretta Satterthwaite, 6330 Plymouth-Sorrento Rd., Apopka, FL 32703.

The Birdlife of Escambia, Santa Rosa, and Okaloosa Counties, Florida by Robert A. Duncan. 1988. 60pp \$5.00 (Available from Bob Duncan, 614 Fairpoint Dr., Gulf Breeze, FL 32561) --Covers the distribution and abundance of birds from 1916-1987. Includes bar graphs, comparative analyses, accidentals, documentation, and extreme arrival and departure dates. Replaces, updates, and improves on Francis Weston's long out-of-print 1967 publication. It is a model for what can be done for other regions of Florida.

Piping Plover Reports-- A reminder to those who are keeping records on Piping Plover occurrence in Florida. Please send this information (dates, locations, details on color-marked birds, if any) to Ms. Janice Nichols, Dept. Zool/Wildl, Auburn Univ., AL 36849-4201.

#### NEW AMERICAN BIRDS XMAS COUNT FORMAT

A new era for Florida ornithology began in March 1988 with the publication of the 1987 results of the National Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs) in a new, tabular format (Am Birds 41(4): 519-1330.) CBCs no doubt are the largest avian data base readily available and the new format removes all barriers to use of CBC information on the winter distribution and abundance of birds for the entire continent. Although imperfections exist in the new format, now anyone can easily

satisfy their curiosity about the winter distribution of Great Crested Flycatchers in Florida or the relative abundance of Florida's wintering Greater and Lesser yellowlegs, for example. I expect birders with computer skills will soon be devising ways to store, analyze, graph, and map Florida CBC data. Also, teachers of classes in ecology, ornithology, or biometry now can assign to their students course research projects designed to use CBC data. Perhaps the Florida Ornithological Society should consider how it could encourage, coordinate, or support systematic and regular analyses of the state's extensive CBC data.--Fred E. Lohrer.

#### WHO IS DOING WHAT WITH BIRDS IN FLORIDA?

Dr. Jack P. Hailman (Dept of Zoology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706)--Behavioral mechanisms of social organization in the Florida Scrub Jay (at Archbold Biol. Station); Vocalizations of the Carolina Chickadee and Tufted Titmouse (in Florida panhandle).

Dr. A. Margaret Elowson (Also U. of Wisconsin) Predator-elicited calls of the Florida Scrub Jay. Vocalizations of the Crested Caracara.

Ann Marie Francis (formerly Dept Zool, Univ. of Wisconsin) Mobbing in the Florida Scrub Jay (description, sexual asymmetries, role of helpers, and ontogeny).

Editor's Note: If you, your colleagues, students, or employees are conducting bird research, or surveys, or whatever, please send names, addresses, and topics to the editor for future listings.

#### NEW FWS GUIDELINES FOR RAPTOR CONTROL

In response to concerns about injuries and deaths of raptors being trapped and removed under US Fish & Wildlife Service permits, the Service issued on August 18, 1987 new guidelines dealing with its policy on issuing permits to take raptors with the use of pole traps. Three regions (not indicated) have issued 123 pole trap permits (since 1982 mostly) to beagle clubs, waterfowl breeders, game farms, and shooting preserves (In Pennsylvania, 37 of 40 permits went to beagle clubs) and a significant rate of mortality was being reported. The new guidelines are listed below and should reduce considerably the number and



duration of depredation permits issued.

Guidelines

1. Depredation permits that authorize the use of pole traps may be issued only for situations in which live trapping of raptors is permitted.
2. Depredation permits authorizing the use of pole traps should be issued only for situations in which actual depredation has been documented.
3. Permits authorizing the use of pole traps should only be issued for situations in which the depredation involves economic loss to a person's livelihood.
4. Permits authorizing the use of pole traps should not be issued for purposes of protecting hobby or recreational activities.
5. Permits should be issued for no more than a 30-day period. If the depredation problem has not been resolved within that period, then the permit may be renewed for an additional 30-day period.
6. Permits authorizing the use of pole traps should be issued only after all other reasonable means of control have failed.
7. Permits must stipulate that any pole traps used must be installed and operated in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the pamphlet entitled "Raptor Control", available from the F&WS, Washington, DC 20240.
8. The injury or death of any migratory bird as a result of being trapped in a pole trap must be reported immediately to the issuing office. Permits must stipulate that any injured bird must be taken immediately to a competent veterinarian for care at the permittee's expense.

F.O.S. NEWS

Pres: David Goodwin [redacted]  
 V.P.: Richard T. Paul, [redacted]  
 Secy: Bruce D. Neville, [redacted]  
 Treas: Caroline H. Coleman [redacted]

Fall Meeting - October 7-9, 1988

Miami, Florida  
 Local Chrm: Bruce Neville [redacted]  
 Probable site(not yet confirmed): Holiday Inn, Cutlers Ridge  
 Field Trips: Elliott Key--Biscayne Natl. Park, and Exotic Birds of Miami/Homestead.

Report on Spring 1988 Meeting

The F.O.S. met jointly with the Alabama Ornithological Society April 22-24 at the Sea-lab on Dauphin Island, in the mouth of Mobile Bay. Field trips were made to Ft. Morgan State Park, Blakely Island, and Dauphin Is. Although no weather fronts moved in, a good selection of migrants were present. Possibly the most numerous species was the Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Highlights were several Dickcissels, a Black-billed Cuckoo, and (at Blakely) Buff-breasted and Baird's Sandpipers.

Although nearly 60 FOS members made it to Dauphin Island, the Board of Directors failed to field a quorum, hence did not meet. (Officers and directors are reminded that an obligation of Board membership is attendance at meetings so that business of the Society can be transacted)

The banquet speaker was Brookes Atherton, who presented an excellent slide show on the Dry Tortugas. Herb Kale presented Baker County atlas coordinator with an award (Ray Harm's Yellow-billed Cuckoos) for being the outstanding county coordinator for 1987. Joe Ondrejko of Key West received a Florida Birds calendar for having travelled the greatest distance to the meeting. A couple from Ohio(closer by!) also received a calendar.

During the membership meeting new directors for the society elected for a 2-year term were Ron Christen, Dr. Paul Fellers, and Dr. J. W. Hardy. President Goodwin expressed his thanks on behalf of FOS to Mr. Greg Jackson, president of A.O.S. for an outstanding meeting. He also congratulated P. William Smith for his excellent project, funded by a grant from the Helen G. and Allan D. Cruickshank Research Fund, the Eurasian Collared Dove, which was recently published in American Birds. He also thanked Terry West for making a traveling case for the F.O.S. sign.

News of F. O. S. Members

We were greatly saddened and shocked to learn of the death from cancer of Dr. Ralph W. Schreiber on March 28, 1988. A charter member and former officer of F.O.S., Ralph was curator of birds at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History. To his wife Betty Ann we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

We are also deeply saddened to learn of the serious illness of John Brooks, husband of Jane Brooks. John suffered a heart attack while fishing in Ft. Pierce inlet in March



and has been in a coma since then. To Jane we extend our best hopes and wishes.

Dr. Lovett E. Williams, Jr., has been awarded the National Turkey Federation's Henry S. Mosby Memorial Award for his career work in wildlife management and conservation of the Wild Turkey. Dr. Williams book "Studies of the Wild Turkey in Florida" (coauthored with David N. Austin) has recently been published by the University Presses of Florida.

Dr. Glen E. Woolfenden will assume the presidency of the American Ornithologist's Union at the end of this year's AOU meeting at the University of Arkansas, August 15-18.

Florida Audubon Society presented Dr. Lawrence Walkinshaw an award at the 1988 International Crane Workshop held at River Ranch in March in recognition of his many years of efforts in behalf of Sandhill Crane research and conservation. The award was an original painting of a Florida Sandhill Crane chick by wildlife artist Diane Pearce.

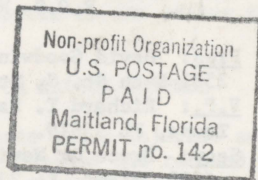
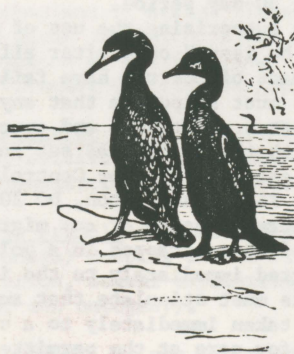
Congratulations to Wes (State Breeding Bird Atlas coordinator) and Betty Biggs on their marriage on Garden Key, Dry Tortugas on May 7. Attending were participants in two tour groups, Benton Basham's Four Points Tour and the annual F.O.S. Dry Tortugas trip. F.O.S. past president Bob Brown, a notary public, conducted the service, so all was legal.

Dr. Herbert W. Kale II, Editor  
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Maitland, FL 32751

### Notice to Library Subscribers

This will probably not be read by the right people, but...library subscribers should be aware that oftentimes the FAS-FOS Newsletter is mailed in the same envelope with the Florida Field Naturalist. Please note this so that you can access both the journal and the newsletter when it arrives. The Fall issue of the Newsletter is always mailed separately, and occasionally one or more other issues may be mailed independent of the journal.

The next issue of the FAS-FOS Newsletter will be printed in August. Please send material for this issue to the editor by August 1.



Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary  
Rt. 6, Box 1875-A  
Naples, FL 33999



## THE FLORIDA RARE BIRD ALERT

(Revised May 1988)

Following is a new listing of participants in the Florida Rare Bird Alert (the Florida Hotline). It supercedes the list published in February 1987 and lists the names of individuals who responded to the notice in the winter issue of the FAS-FOS Newsletter.

The Florida Hotline is a voluntary project, and its success depends on the cooperation of each participant. The penalty for repeated failure to pass on alerts is straightforward--you will be bypassed on future alerts. The Golden Rule applies--Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

Participants have two obligations: 1. Begin an alert when you find and have confirmed a rarity; and 2. Pass on an alert you receive to others in your area and to the next city on the calling route. If no answer, call another participant in that city, or if no one else is listed, call the next city down the line. If you must skip a city, try to reach the missed parties as soon as possible. If you reach a recording, leave a message, but be sure to phone another participant down the line--that recording may not be checked for hours, or days.

Some common sense must prevail in deciding when to initiate an alert. The identification first should be confirmed (ideally by more than one observer), and the bird should give some indication of possibly remaining in the vicinity for a while. Note that you must make two calls when you initiate an alert, to the cities on both sides of you.

If your name does not appear below and you desire to be a part of the Hotline, contact the participants listed in your city or area and ask them to add your name and phone number to their copy of this list. If your city is not listed below, contact participants in the cities on each side of your town (see map). Also, send a note to the FAS-FOS Newsletter editor (H. W. Kale II, 1101 Audubon Way, Maitland, FL 32751) for a future addenda listing.

Keep a log of the alerts that you receive or initiate. Here is a suggested format:

Date/Time/Caller Species When/Where Finder/Contact Details Alert sent to:

FLORIDA AUDUBON RARE BIRD ALERT NUMBER: 407/644-0190

Florida Audubon Society maintains a taped Rare Bird Alert Message that can be heard by dialing the above number. It is vital that Orlando area hot-liners notify Audubon (647-2615) when an alert comes through so that it can be placed on the message tape. Ask for Wes Biggs or Herb Kale.





LIST OF FLORIDA RAREBIRD ALERT PARTICIPANTS

Pensacola Area

Robert & Lucy Duncan

[REDACTED]

Dr. Brad Williams

[REDACTED]

Res [REDACTED]

Richard L. Ballman

[REDACTED]

St. Petersburg Area

Brookes & Lyn Atherton

[REDACTED]

Choctawhatchee Bay Area

Donald M. Ware

[REDACTED]

David Goodwin

[REDACTED]

Marianna Area

Sybil Arbery

[REDACTED]

Larry Hopkins

[REDACTED]

Ofc [REDACTED]

Brian Specht

[REDACTED]

Annie H. McKelvey

[REDACTED]

Paul Trunk

[REDACTED]

Tallahassee Area

Ron Christen

[REDACTED]

Ofc [REDACTED]

Polk County Area

Buck & Linda Cooper

[REDACTED]

David L. Eslinger

[REDACTED]

Ofc [REDACTED]

Chuck Geanangel

[REDACTED]

Jacksonville

Mary Davidson

[REDACTED]

Dan L. Canterbury

[REDACTED]

Res [REDACTED]

Peggy Powell

[REDACTED]

Orlando Area

C. Wes Biggs

[REDACTED]

Res [REDACTED]

Gainesville

Pat Lanzillotti

[REDACTED]

Dot Freeman

[REDACTED]

Ofc [REDACTED]

Orlando, cont.

Dr. Herbert W. Kale  
1101 Audubon Way  
Maitland, FL 32751

Res [REDACTED]

Becky Payne  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thomas Yurchenco  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Titusville

C. Dwight Cooley  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Merritt Island

Dan Click  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Melbourne

Bob Brown  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Don Devitt  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Vero Beach

Maggy Bowman  
[REDACTED]

Res [REDACTED]

Patricia Brown  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Frances Graves  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Jack Taylor  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Bruce Wetmore  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Ft. Pierce

Jane M. Brooks  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Bill & Helen Dowling  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

West Palm Beach Area

Gloria Hunter  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Howard P. Langridge  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Ft. Lauderdale

Wally George  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Miami Area

Dr. I. Joel Abramson  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mort Cooper  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Virginia Edens  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Bruce Neville  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Jean & Hal Quincy  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mickey Wheeler  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Homestead

P. William Smith  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Tavernier

Karen Strobel  
Natl. Audubon Res. Dept.  
115 Indian Mound Trail  
Tavernier, FL 33070

Arcadia

Joseph T. Mustion

Naples

Henry Colteryahn

Sarasota

Connie Caswell

LaBelle

Lynne Lewis

Florida Rare Bird Alert Route

