MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
By Doug Young

Broward County Audubon Society has been and is very busy leading the way in South Florida with our public education and advocacy. You will read about details in this issue of the The Warbler. There is no need to repeat the details of the great work we are doing but rather I prefer to commend everyone on the Board for their participation in planning, presenting, attending, writing and leading so many important initiatives which affect our lives each and every day in South Florida. In addition, we are enjoying good attendance for our field trips / bird walks.

I know that some of you are wondering why we not having regular monthly meetings this year as we have in the past. The answer is simple. The Board made a decision to go through this ‘season’, 2006-2007 without the meetings because of the very poor attendance that we were getting. Lots of planning took place but not many people turned out, so we have experimented. We may return to the monthly meeting format next fall. In order to do so, we want to hear from you. Please email me at: dyoung@browwardaudubon.org or leave me a telephone message at: 954-232-1956 telling me that you want monthly meetings beginning next October thru May and that you will attend. Our plan for next year is to schedule regular meetings on a bi-monthly basis, unless we hear from you that you would prefer meetings every month.

This coming month will be extremely busy as there are many activities / events / celebrations in Broward County for Earth Day which officially is on Sunday, April 22. I urge you to participate in events throughout Broward County. Please take particular note of Sunday, April 15 when the Broward County Audubon Society hosts its annual Give Thanks to the Environment Day.

Our Web site will be updated so that you find news of all the activities and events that are taking place and planned for you. Once again, I urge you to contact us with your suggestions, comments or concerns. The Board is here to plan for you. We are also out there serving the community and our voice is often heard and respected on so many issues from global warming to air port expansion, from water quality to water supply, from Everglades Restoration to Manatee preservation, from speaking out against building coal-fired generating plants to helping preserve the Everglades Agricultural Area.

As always, we need volunteers for our board and committees. For next year, we need a new newsletter editor, treasurer, fieldtrip, membership and fund raising chairs. Please contact me at the email and phone number above if you’re interested.

Enjoy the spring! Get out and see as many birds as you can now, remember many of those snowbirds either have already flown north or are on their way home for the summer and will not be back until the fall. As always, thank you for your continued support.

Upcoming Birdwalks

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Parking Lot</th>
<th>Host</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>4/7/07</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>$5 donation</td>
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<td>Gloria Cashin</td>
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<td>Easterlin Park</td>
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<td>Hugh Taylor Birch SP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>5/5/07</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>$5 donation plus entry</td>
<td>Gumbo Limbo Parking Area</td>
<td>Jon &amp; Heidi Estrin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>5/12/07</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>$5 donation</td>
<td>First parking area by lake</td>
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<td>Tree Tops Park Pine Island Ridge</td>
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Broward Audubon Recognizes South Florida’s Green Mayors
Twenty-Seven South Florida Mayors Join to Fight Global Warming
by Barry Heimlich

Broward County Audubon Society honored the mayors of 27 South Florida municipalities that have joined a nationwide initiative to fight global warming at the opening reception of the VisionBROWARD Leadership Forum on the Environment and the Economy on Thursday evening, February 8th at the Bonnet House and Gardens in Fort Lauderdale. The mayors were presented with the Protector of the Climate award in recognition of their leadership. Mayor Manny Diaz of Miami, vice president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, was the keynote speaker. The reception was the kickoff event of the two day Forum, co-chaired by Devin Avery, VisionBROWARD program manager, and Barry Heimlich both members of Broward Audubon’s board. The Forum was a big success.

As of March 22, the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement has been signed by over 431 mayors from all 50 states representing a total population of over 61 million. Broward County is especially well represented with 21 participating mayors representing more than two-thirds of the county’s city mayors and approximately 80% of the county’s 1.77 million population. More Broward County mayors have joined this program than any other county in the United States. "These South Florida mayors are setting a strong example for the nation by demonstrating their concern about global warming and most importantly they are doing something significant about it," said Barry N. Heimlich, Broward County Audubon Society vice president and chair of its global warming initiative. Two of the educating residents, businesses and government officials through newsletter articles, a global warming website, expert speakers at its meetings, speaking to civic organizations, and organizing special events under the leadership of its vice president Barry Heimlich. The primary thrust of Broward Audubon’s global warming initiative has been to encourage a majority of Broward County’s 31 mayors to sign onto the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. This program has been recognized by Audubon of Florida, the Florida arm of the National Audubon Society, as a model program to be followed by other Audubon chapters throughout Florida and the nation. See http://www.audubonofflorida.org/PDFs/Naturalist_Summer2006.pdf. BCAS is now working with the county and city governments to set up “Green Teams” and Green Building ordinances to plan and execute programs that conserve energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Broward County Audubon Society’s Global Warming Initiative

Since October 2005, Broward County Audubon Society has undertaken a global warming initiative comprised of educating residents, businesses and government officials through newsletter articles, a global warming website, expert speakers at its meetings, speaking to civic organizations, and organizing special events under the leadership of its vice president Barry Heimlich. The primary thrust of Broward Audubon’s global warming initiative has been to encourage a majority of Broward County’s 31 mayors to sign onto the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. This program has been recognized by Audubon of Florida, the Florida arm of the National Audubon Society, as a model program to be followed by other Audubon chapters throughout Florida and the nation. See http://www.audubonofflorida.org/PDFs/Naturalist_Summer2006.pdf. BCAS is now working with the county and city governments to set up “Green Teams” and Green Building ordinances to plan and execute programs that conserve energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement

Under the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, a program of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, participating mayors commit to:

- strive to meet or beat the Kyoto Protocol targets in their own communities through such actions as energy conservation programs, green building ordinances, antisprawl land-use policies, urban forest restoration projects, public information campaigns, etc.; urge state and federal governments to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the greenhouse gas emission reduction target suggested for the United States in the Kyoto Protocol, i.e. 7% reduction from 1990 levels by 2012; and urge the U.S. Congress to pass bipartisan greenhouse gas reduction legislation, setting emission reduction goals and establishing a national emission trading system.

"We commend these South Florida’s mayors for taking the lead in addressing climate change," said Broward Audubon president Doug Young.
My message will be short and simple...

Many of our Board members are involved in numerous conservation issues important to our county, to our region, to our state, and to our nation, not to mention our planet! But we need your help—yes your help—to stay on top of these issues, to attend meetings, to write letters, to speak to elected officials and the general public, to research difficult issues.

In our County, we are working on issues of manatee protection, water quality and water standards, water conservation programs, alternative energy sources, proposed impacts on our coastline and reef systems, impacts on parks and environmentally sensitive lands by the proposed Ft. Lauderdale airport expansion, and protection of protected and endangered habitats, including the our best backyard neighbor—the beautiful, fragile and endangered Everglades Ecosystem.

In our region, we are working on numerous regional issues, such as smart growth, transportation and the Everglades Restoration Project. These carry forward to our state and national concerns. And of course, there is our Global Warming Initiative, spearheaded by Barry Heimlich.

So, there is so much to do and so many reasons to say “Yes, I’ll get involved! How can I help??” Please continue to check our website http://www.brownardaudubon.org and the calendar and events we are planning.

Key websites to check for updates on State environmental issues:
Audubon of Florida: http://www.audubonofflorida.org/
Audubon of Florida action alerts: http://audubonaction.org/florida/
The Everglades Coalition: http://www.evergladescoalition.org/
National Audubon issues: http://www.audubon.org/

If you are interested in helping, please contact me at 305-243-3997 or via e-mail at lbaumbac@med.miami.edu. We need your help.
Inside this issue:

- Message from the Conservation Chair
- 27 Mayors Sign onto US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement
- Give Thanks for the Environment Day, April 15 2007

Give Thanks for the Environment Day

Sunday, April 15, 2007, 10am-4pm

Anne Kolb Nature Center
751 Sheridan Street
Hollywood, Florida

See inside for Details