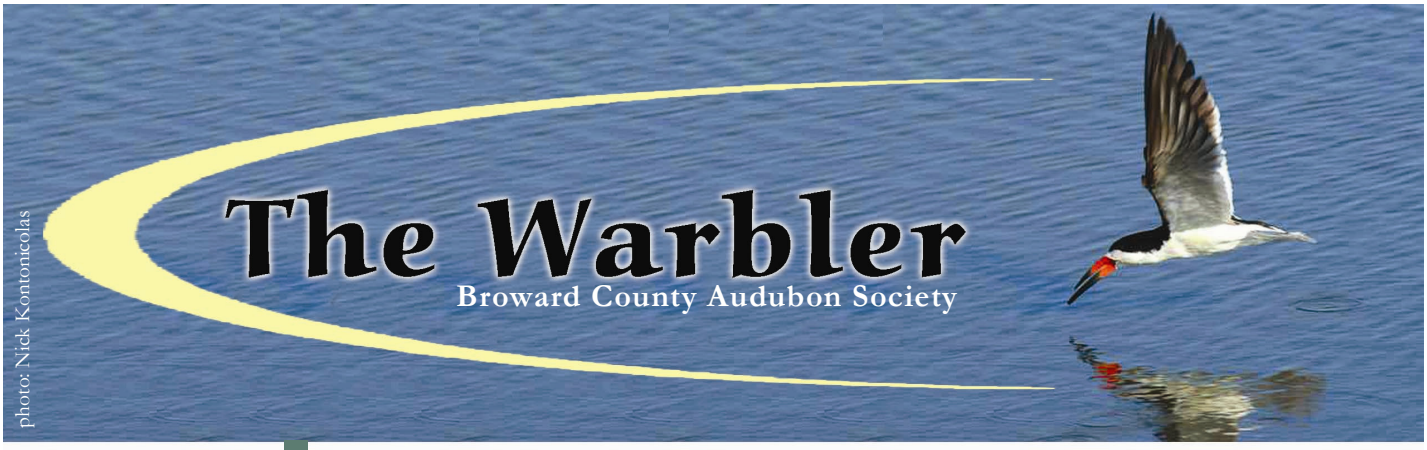


*The Warbler*
*January 2007*

- Come to BCAS exciting activities, events, field trips, and programs!
- The Warbler is also available online at browardaudubon.org

## 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 are 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@browardaudubon.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.

## Board of Directors 2006 - 2007

| | |
|---|---|
| Doug Young | President |
| Devin Avery | Director |
| Hedvah Shuchman | Director |
| Barry Heimlich | Vice President, Global Warming Initiative, Acting Treasurer |
| Leslie Dobbs | Publicity |
| Lisa Baumbach-Reardon | Conservation |
| Peg McPherson | Programs |
| Fred Rehage | Secretary |
| Marti Reynolds | Education |

## Upcoming Birdwalks

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sat | 4/7/07 | 8:00 AM | Easterlin Park | $5 donation | First right parking lot | Gloria Cashin |
| Sat | 4/14/07 | 8:00 AM | Hugh Taylor Birch SP | $5 dona- | Beach Parking | Bryant Roberts |
| Sat | 5/5/07 | 8:00 AM | Gumbo Limbo NC Spanish River Park Boca Raton | $5 donation plus entry | Gumbo Limbo Parking Area | Jon & Heidi Estrin |
| Sat | 5/12/07 | 8:00 AM | Tree Tops Park Pine Island Ridge | $5 donation | First parking area by lake | Park Naturalist |

# 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 major consequences of global warming are rising sea levels and more frequent major hurricanes. These are of special concern in low-lying South Florida so it's appropriate for South Florida to take the lead. On February 2, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reported that global warming was *unequivocal* and there is a 90-99% likelihood that human activities such as burning fossil fuels, agriculture, and deforestation by burning are responsible.

**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.

From left: Delray Beach Mayor Jeff Perlman, Lauderhill Mayor Richard Kaplan, Broward County Commissioner Ilene Lieberman, Pembroke Pines Mayor Frank Ortis, Hallandale Mayor Joy Cooper, Broward Audubon Vice President Barry Heimlich, Lauderdale Lakes Mayor Samuel Brown, Miami Mayor Manny Diaz, North Miami Mayor Kevin Burns, Tamarac Commissioner Patricia Atkins-Grad representing Mayor Beth Flansbaum-Talabisco, Pompano Beach Mayor John Rayson, Plantation Mayor Rae Carole Armstrong

## *Message from the Conservation Chair*
**By Lisa Baumbach-Reardon**

**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.browardaudubon.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.**

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# *The Newsletter of the Broward County Audubon Society*

## Conservation, Community, Commitment

See us on the Web:
**www.browardaudubon.org**
**browardaudubon.blogspot.com**
**e-warbler@browardaudubon.org**
**Broward_Audubon@yahoogroups.com**

Volume 52
Issue 5
April 2007

***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***