MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Doug Young

I write this message from Canada’s ocean playground and picture province of Nova Scotia. I’m on vacation for 9 days and celebrating Canadian Thanksgiving. What a treat! The morning after I arrived, just before departing off the mainland to Cape Breton Island, I looked up to enjoy the orange, red and yellow Fall leaves and bright blue sky. Suddenly, to my left, flying majestically was a magnificent bald eagle. Nova Scotia is one of Canada’s east coast, Maritime Provinces and is rural, thinly populated and mainly pristine and unpolluted. That’s one of the reasons why I’m visiting here – to appreciate the beauty of the country of my origin. Now, I am reminded of the daily challenges that face us in Broward County of South Florida. That is why our Chapter Board Members were so active in September: participating in the ‘Listening Sessions’ hosted by the Department of Commerce; co-sponsoring and actively participating in a Climate Change / Global Warming concert / event in Hollywood which included a presentation by Barry Heimlich, on behalf of BCAS of an environmental award to Mayor Mara Guiltani; Barry Heimlich, member of the Broward County Water Advisory Board inviting and introducing, Dr. Hal Wanless, Chair, department of Geosciences, University of Miami, to address the Advisory Board on the subject of the effects of Climate Change / Global Warming on Broward County and South Florida’s East Coast; submitting briefs regarding conservation issues to the appropriate groups and continuing to give presentations to private citizen groups, business groups and political leaders on the effects of climate change / global warming on Broward County / South Florida and the need to act now to conserve energy and reduce CO2 emissions.

My point – with the November elections only days away, there is still time for you to attend meeting and political rallies/ events to ask questions of candidates and learn where they stand on important environmental / conservation issues such as Everglades Restoration or climate change / global warming. It is important that each of you exert constant vigilance to ensure that your best interests will be supported locally in your city or county, as well as in Tallahassee and Washington.

On November 7, please get out and vote, support the one-cent tax for Broward Mass Transit, and support the candidates that express a sincere and genuine environmental conviction and conscience.

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Global Warming in the News

Compiled by Hedvah Shuchman

U.S. Supreme Court Gets Argument for EPA to Regulate CO2

Science, September 8, 2006

The Supreme Court will consider the question this term whether greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide should be regulated as pollutants. EPA has used the Clean Air Act of 1970 to regulate smog and other pollution from cars—not greenhouse gases. In 1999 a nonprofit organization petitioned EPA to change its mind. EPA declined and in 2003 a number of states and nonprofit groups sued. That case, Massachusetts v. EPA, is now before the Supreme Court and last month 12 states and a number of cities and nonprofit groups filed

Arctic Research Hints at Future Warming


The Integrated Ocean Drilling Program has succeeded in taking core samples from the floor of the Arctic Ocean, a first for science. The samples contain the remains of animal and plant life several million years old. By analyzing the fatty substances in the cells’ membranes, researchers can determine the average temperature that prevailed during the organisms’ life. At some time during the Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum period (PETM) the earth released a great abundance of greenhouse gas (possibly methane or carbon dioxide.) into the atmosphere, resulting in a greenhouse effect and accompanying global temperature rise of 5 degrees C. This shows that if you pump a bunch of greenhouse gas into the atmosphere, the planet warms. This is a good analog for today’s greenhouse gas emissions.

Climate Change May Destroy Coast Fishing

National Wildlife Federation

Fishing as we know it could disappear in a few decades. Flooding of bays and estuaries on Florida coasts as a result of global warming. Predicted fallout of global warming will be increased disease among marine life, more outbreaks of harmful algal blooms, fiercer hurricanes and more extreme rainfall patterns.

In addition to the effect on commercial fisheries, sport fishing will be affected and that could mean a big dent on the state’s economy. In 2005 recreational fishers spent $3.3 million and supported nearly 60,000 job. Among the game fish species most likely to be affected are flounder, gray snapper, tarpon, bonefish, redfish and snook.

Fed’s Say Yes to Bio-based Products

by Kimberly Palmer, Plenty August/September 2006

In April 2006, Congress requested the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to start a program requiring federal agencies to buy bio-based products made from renewable sources such as soybean oil instead of petroleum. The department says the program will boost the industry and encourage creation of more bio-based products. The USDA has a compiled a list of petroleum-based products that should be replaced with bio-based counterparts, including hydraulic fluids, water tank coatings, diesel fuel additives, lubricants and linens. Hand-cleaners, sanitizers and germ-killers will probably be phased in. The USDA’s Beltsville Agricultural Research Center in Maryland, one of the first places to embrace bio-based products, already uses bio diesel fuel in its tractors, soybean oil as a lubricant for machinery and bio-based soap in its bathrooms.

Global Warming Initiative Progress

by Barry Heimlich

September and October achievements:

Helped organize and participated in the Hollywood Global Warming and Dialogue with Earthman Lanny Smith.

Joined with Hollywood Mayor Giulianti to establish a Green Team to implement energy conservation programs.

Asked federal officials including Commerce Secretary Gutierrez to save South Florida from Global Warming at Listening Session.

Arranged for Dr. Hal Wanless, U. Miami geologist, to address the Water Advisory Board. The Board requested the Technical Advisory Committee to review the issue and make recommendations for presentation to the county commission.

Met with a couple of city mayors about initiating climate protection initiatives.

We’ve been invited to describe our initiative at Audubon Assembly in Cocoa Beach in October.

Made presentation at Forest Trace condo in Tamarac.

We will be addressing organizations and school programs.

We’ve been invited by Vision Broward to help kick off their Leadership Conference on the Environment on February 8-9, 2007.

What is being planned for the opening session is a banquet to be attended by hundreds of community leaders in government, business, and the public and private sectors. Highlighting the evening will be a high profile speaker to make the keynote address on climate protection. Mayors who have signed onto the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement will receive BCAS’s Protector of the Climate Award. When Broward’s participating mayors stand shoulder-to-shoulder for climate protection, it will set a strong example for the nation that action can be taken to reverse global warming.

Recent Books on The Threat to the Planet

Elizabeth Kolbert, Field Notes From a Catastrophe: Man, Nature and Climate Change, Bloomsbury 2006

Meet some of the world’s leading climate researchers who explain the dangers in non-technical language without sacrificing scientific accuracy.

Mark Bowen, Thin Ice, Henry Holt. The story of the heroic work of Lonnie Thompson in extracting information on climate change from some of the most forbidding and spectacular places on the planet.


Al Gore, An Inconvenient Truth, The Planetary Emergency of Global Warming and What We Can Do About It, A beautifully illustrated and extremely exciting discussion of the critical issues in global warming and a program of action for citizens concerned with reducing the impacts of the human contribution to the crisis.

New Children’s Book on Global Warming:

Mass Transit Tax Referendum on November Ballot
By Devin Avery
Anyone who drives on Broward’s interstate highways knows that the County is having growing pains. Can you imagine what it will be like when there is an additional million people in Broward as projected by 2025? Our community is becoming a major metropolitan area and it needs much bigger and better mass transit.

Although plans are still under review, the proposed system will have much expanded intercity and community bus service and new light rail lines – one along the FEC corridor connecting the downtowns from Hallandale Beach to Deerfield Beach and another that will go east-west from downtown Fort Lauderdale to the University Center in Davie to the Sawgrass Mills area.

In order to qualify for federal and state matching funds needed for expanding mass transit, the County must have a dedicated funding source. That is why the County Commission approved a referendum on November’s ballot for a 1% County sales tax dedicated to fund mass transit.

Broward County Audubon Society believes that mass transit is critical to Broward County’s future quality of life.

Receive The Warbler by E-mail
By Jonathan Estrin
If a tree didn’t have to fall in the forest, wouldn’t you like to hear about it? The Broward County Audubon Society is now offering its members the option of receiving The Warbler by e-mail. Receive Chapter news more quickly and help us reduce our environmental impact. Visit the Broward County Audubon Web site at:

browardaudubon.org or our blog at: browardaudubon.blogspot.com
To sign up today at: e-warbler@browardaudubon.org.

Save time and save trees. Sign up for your Broward Audubon e-newsletter — The e-Warbler

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browardaudubon.org or our blog at: browardaudubon.blogspot.com
To sign up today at: e-warbler@browardaudubon.org.

Save time and save trees. Sign up for your Broward Audubon e-newsletter — The e-Warbler

Save Trees!!

Save Trees!!

Save Trees!!

Field guides, binoculars, scopes, birding supplies, bird-feeders, software and more.
Broward Audubon’s Online Nature Store Helps Support BCAS

Broward Audubon’s Online Nature Store

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Save Trees!!

Save Trees!!

Save Trees!!

BCAS Establishes Blogger
By Jonathan Estrin
Join the Conversation!

Share your thoughts on birding, nature and the environment with the Audubon member community. Joining the conversation is easy; visit the Broward County Audubon Society’s online blog at browardaudubon.blogspot.com.

The blog is an interactive Web page where you can read about conservation issues and birding-related topics important to Broward Audubon and the local community. Then, use the site’s comment feature to add your own insights and personal perspective.

Visit soon, visit often. It’s your Audubon!

BCAS Updates
By Jonathan Estrin
Take a look at the new format for our website. We hope the new layout will be more informative, more accessible, and more navigable. You can find it at:

http://www.browardaudubon.com

The website is where we will keep you informed on activities, events and programs. And it links to other resources we hope you will find interesting.

Visit soon, visit often. It’s your Audubon!
Conservation, Community, Commitment

Inside this issue:
- President's Message
- Global Warming Initiative
  - Global Warming in the News
  - Global Warming Initiative Progress
  - Books on Threats to the Planet
- Fieldtrip/Outing Schedule
- BCAS Warbler Online Info.
- BCAS Blogsite Announced
- Update on Broward County Transit

We have expanded on the web!
Be sure to check out the following options:

toucan@browardaudubon.org
browardaudubon.blogspot.com
Broward_Audubon@yahoogroups.com

Global Warming - What Can You Do?
Is it real? What's causing it? What could be the consequences? Can it be stopped? How?
featuring Barry Heimlich
Chair - Global Warming Initiative
Broward County Audubon Society

Borders Book Store
2240 E. Sunrise Blvd, Ft. Lauderdale
Thursday, November 16, 2006 at 7:30 p.m.