

# The Warbler



The Warbler,  
April, 2005

*Points of interest:*

- Come to BCAS exciting activities, events, field trips, and programs!
- Meetings held at Fern Forest Nature Center
- The Warbler is also available online at <http://www.browardaudubon.org>

*Inside this issue:*

President's Message	1
Ft. De Soto Weekend Trip	1
Conservation News	2
First Audubon Academy	2
BCAS Land Sale	3
Bird-a-thon + BirdingHotSpot	3
End-of-year Bird walk and Picnic: 5/21/05	4

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

*Lisa L. Baumbach-Reardon*

**It is hard to believe that we have almost come to the end of our 2004–2005 meeting and activities schedule!** But there are still ample opportunities to finish up the year with some activities—our Chapter Bird-a-thon and activity at Flamingo Gardens (Saturday, April 9, 2005), our Chapter Weekend Field Trip to Ft. De Soto (April 30/May 1, 2005), Earth Day activities in Broward County (Saturday, April 16, 2005), and our End-of-the-Year Bird Walk and Picnic to be held at Fern Forest on Saturday, May 21, 2005. Further information on these events is included in this newsletter.

Other important information includes the recent land sale and land donation from BCAS former president Bill Conway, with proceeds starting a much needed endowment for our chapter, important local and state conservation priorities, and the slate of 2005–2006 Chapter Officers, which will be voted on at the May 21st picnic. There are still two at-large seats open for the Board of Directors. I strongly encourage you to think about filling one of these seats—we have an exciting and challenging 2005–2006 year ahead, with several new Board members! If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact Fred Griffin (954-587-8008) or myself (954-316-9332).

Another important item is that several Board members just returned from the first ever Audubon Academy, held in St. Petersburg the weekend of March 17th. There were more than 80 Audubon chapter leaders there from throughout the state, sharing in many leadership workshops. For more information on the Audubon Academy, please see this issue of the newsletter.

Last, but not least, this is my last newsletter message as Chapter President. I have feelings of both happiness for what we have accomplished this past year and sadness of ending the year as President. It has been an honor to serve in this position. I will return next year on the BCAS Board as Conservation Chair, a leadership position near and dear to my heart. I want to end by thanking several Board members who are retiring—Jacqui Sulek and Cheryl Verona—both moving to different regions of North Florida, and last—but not least—Fred Griffin, who we are letting “retire” from the Board after many, many years of service. **A big thank you to each officer for all their service!**

For those of you going away over the summer, please check the BCAS website for updates, including our 2005–2006 activities schedule. Hope to see you in April or May at one of our events!



## Ft. De Soto and Gulf Coast Birding

**April 29, 30, May 1, 2005**

- 1 1/2 days at Ft. De Soto.
- Two nights at hotel in St. Petersburg.
- Lunch and happy hour on Saturday.
- 2 continental breakfasts.
- Provide your own transportation.
- Carpooling will be facilitated.
- Only \$195 including \$50 tax-deductible donation to Broward Audubon.

Enjoy the drive! A \$30 upgrade includes extra birding on the way there and back at places like Cecil Webb, Sawgrass Lake, Weedon Island, Oscar Scherer and Myakka River State Parks!

Ft. De Soto in St. Petersburg is one of the hottest spots for Spring migration—as many warblers as the Dry Tortugas. Plus, you might see Blue Grosbeak, Scarlet Tanager—or rare shorebirds like Long-billed Curlew and Whimbrel!

**Led by expert birder Paddy Cunningham:**  
For more info, call Paddy evenings: 954-926-5458  
email: [birdpaddy@yahoo.com](mailto:birdpaddy@yahoo.com)

# CONSERVATION NEWS: STATE, REGIONAL, & FEDERAL NEWS OF INTEREST

By Lisa Baumbach-Reardon

BCAS President and Conservation Chair

## It's April—Spring is in the Air—and this month we celebrate Earth Day!

Earth Day is Friday, April 22, 2005—please make sure that you do something meaningful for conservation that day! Think about recycling that day, or about conserving water, or planting less water-consuming native plants in your yard—or just go out and enjoy our beautiful parks! There are park clean-up and eco-action days all over Broward County held on Saturday, April 16, 2005—call the park nearest you, or Broward County Parks and Recreation, for more information (954-357-8100). Just make sure to do something that day involving yourself or others that makes you or others appreciate our Earth!

April is also time to pay close attention again to what is happening at the state and federal levels regarding funding for Everglades restoration, and many important environmentally-related bills facing the Florida legislature. Eric Draper, working with Dr. Paul Gray of Audubon of Florida, has succeeded in

convincing state legislators to add a non-recurring \$25 million request in the 05—06 General Appropriations Act for Lake Okeechobee, to accelerate projects to store and clean water before it reaches the Lake. That is partly the result of the rally held for Lake Okeechobee several weeks ago, which was attended by several state representatives and a state senator, organized by Dr. Paul Gray.

It is very important that you keep up to speed about all these issues! **If you have not signed up already, please sign up for the Audubon of Florida Online Advocacy Program which is an easy way to get regular updates on important environmental issues facing our state and country. The web address is: <http://ga1.org/natureadvocate/join.html>. You can also contact Shannon Mayorga at [smayorga@audubon.org](mailto:smayorga@audubon.org) or 305-371-6399.**

Our chapter conservation efforts continue to be focused on multiple issues in Broward County, our region, and the

state. We are working on the County Manatee Protection Plan, protection of Coral Reefs, water quality and water management issues, and the continuing battle over the Fort Lauderdale Airport expansion.

**We work year-round on these critical environmental issues of concern and always need volunteers to help in conservation activities!**

If you are interested in helping toward this end, and getting involved in one or more of these important issues, please contact Lisa Baumbach-Reardon, BCAS Conservation Chair, at [lbaumbac@med.miami.edu](mailto:lbaumbac@med.miami.edu) or 305-243-3997.

**Remember:**

**We only have one Earth,  
and we must all work together  
to protect it for future generations!  
Remember Earth Day—  
Friday, April 22, 2005!**

## FIRST AUDUBON ACADEMY A BIG SUCCESS!!

By David Anderson, Executive Director, Audubon of Florida

The first Audubon Academy was held the weekend of March 17, 2005 at Eckerd College near St. Petersburg. It was a wonderful success!! Joyce King and her committee did a terrific job planning and organizing the Academy. We all owe them a great deal of thanks for a tremendous amount of work that will have lasting dividends. Over 80 Chapter leaders and Board members attended. The sessions were informative and stimulating, the materials were excellent, each day was preceded by a birding foray to Fort De Soto Park, and the evening development session was fabulous. I'm hearing from many people about how exciting

and useful the Academy was for them. The representatives from the National Audubon Society see it as a great model for other state programs. We are planning to have a day of further Academy sessions during our **Audubon Assembly in October \*\*** and we'll work with the Chapters Committee to plan that. We have started exploring how to create an electronic connection for all the Chapters. Thanks and congratulations to Joyce and all the committee members, and all who took the time to present at the Academy.

**\*\* The 2005 State Audubon Assembly will be Oct. 21-22, 2005 at the Holiday Inn Cocoa Beach Resort.**

## Mark's Lawn Cuts

**Friendly, Reliable  
Lawn and Garden  
Service**

*We can also do your  
Pressure Cleaning/Sealing  
Roofs/Patios/Driveways*



Licensed/Insured

**Mark Heimlich**

**954-274-3021**

[markslawncuts@bellsouth.net](mailto:markslawncuts@bellsouth.net)

## Broward Audubon Sponsors for 2004-2005

Please add your name to our growing list of sponsors.

### Great Blue Herons

Alfred E. Griffin  
Ellen and Barry Heimlich  
Richard and Sue Tomlin  
**Roseate Spoonbills**  
Lisa Baumbach-Reardon  
Thomas Henneforth  
Caroline Seabright

### Snowy Egrets

Sandra Hankin  
Rita Heck  
Kathryn and Thomas Henneforth  
Sandra Hankin  
Rita Heck  
Georgina Whitton  
**Warblers**

### Cynthia Cone

Jane and Ken Czubay  
Margaret L. Green  
David and Sue Hagan  
Margaret Harris  
Lawrence Kassan  
Beth Owen  
Lynne and Bruce Warshal

# Broward Audubon Sells Preservation Land to County

By Lisa Baumbach-Reardon  
BCAS President

In 1986, Mr. William Conway donated a 1.67 acre parcel of land in Coconut Creek to Broward County Audubon Society to be kept as preservation land. This land has a small creek running through it and is populated by as many as 100 old growth slash pine and cypress trees which provide habitat for birds, small mammals and reptiles. The land is contiguous with the Winston Park Preserve managed by the City of Coconut Creek. It has become overrun with exotic plants, especially Brazilian pepper, which presents a contamination problem for the adjacent preserve.

In 2000, Broward County passed the Safe Parks and Preservation Land Bond Program and raised \$400 million to enhance the County's parks and to purchase preservation land. The Board of Broward Audubon decided to offer to sell the land to the County. Brian Rosen of the County's Land Preservation Section was extremely receptive to the idea. It was decided that the land would be purchased by the County and put under the management of the City of Coconut Creek and made a part of the Winston Park Preserve. Steve Nash, Coconut Creek's City Forester, was delighted to get the opportunity to take the

land under his control and rid it of the Brazilian pepper.

This transaction would be a win-win-win for all:

- ◇ Mr. Conway's wish to preserve the land in perpetuity would be assured.
- ◇ The land will be a fine addition to Winston Park Preserve.
- ◇ Broward County Audubon Society would receive significant additional funds to help cover the cost of its conservation and educational programs.

The sale was completed on February 17, 2005. The proceeds will be invested and the income will be used to help underwrite Broward Audubon's annual expenses.

At its March 17, 2005 meeting, Broward Audubon expressed its appreciation to Mr. Conway, presenting him with a first edition John J. Audubon print of the Least Bittern with an inscribed plaque. Saralyn Nemser, Esq., a real estate attorney who generously donated her services to complete the transaction, was also honored and presented with Audubon's famous book *Birds of North America*. We also appreciate Barry Heimlich, who used his **vast** experience to negotiate the sale.

## BROWARD HOT SPOTS

By Paddy Cunningham-Pascatore, Expert Birder  
**West Lake-Anne Kolb Nature Center**

Although a local birder once exclaimed that West Lake Park in Hollywood was the park without birds, you may be lucky to pick up some interesting sightings at certain times of the year. On the south side of Sheridan Street, you can find in Tarpon Lake wintering Lesser Scaups, Blue-winged Teals and an occasional Red-breasted Merganser. One of the only shorebird areas in Broward is on the west side of the lake along its

rocky beach where peeps and plovers can be located. Peregrine Falcons are often seen flying over the park and roosting in nearby condos. On the south trail, a Kentucky Warbler has been spotted along the mangrove channel and in the spring nesting Killdeer and Black-necked Stilts in the rocks. On the north Anne Kolb side along the mud flat trail at low tide, wading and shorebirds can be found, along with a past King Rail and Pinted Buntings. A chance to see Roseate Spoonbills flying overhead alone makes West Lake worth visiting!!

## BIRDATHON 2005 SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2005

### BIRDATHON 2005, Saturday, April 9th!!

Birdathon is an exciting annual event with the objective of counting as many species as possible and having friends and associates pledge a per species donation!! Average count may be approximately 35.

On this date, two teams will compete for the title of BBB (Broward's Best Birders). We need your help on one of the teams to count as many birds as possible and to collect some dollars to help BCAS.

**Here is the deal:** Gloria Cashin will lead the **Easterlin Park** group and **Ken Burgener** will lead the **Snyder Park** team. Each team will **spend the morning** counting species seen. **Then they will meet at Flamingo Gardens for a lunch and a tour of the Gardens. Meet at 8 am at each park, bird for several hours and then finish at Flamingo Gardens.**

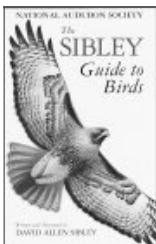
This will be a good opportunity to see the spring migrants and have some good birders around to help ID them!!

**How to participate:** Contact your friends or associates and ask them to sponsor you by giving a pledge to pay so much per species seen, say \$.25 to \$1.00 per. You can get a sponsor sheet by contacting Fred Griffin and he will email one.

By helping out in Birdathon 2005, you will help BCAS in its conservation work, and you will have fun doing so!!

**Contact Fred Griffin at [aeg1933@aol.com](mailto:aeg1933@aol.com) or 954-587-8008 by April 6th**, if participating. Your admission to the Gardens and the Picnic is a sponsor sheet with pledges. We need your help so please contact us at above email or number!!

Field guides, binoculars, scopes,  
birding supplies, birdfeeders, software and more.



**BCAS Online  
Nature Store**



Helps Support BCAS  
<http://store.browardaudubon.org>

**For Your Insurance Needs  
Alfred E. Griffin Insurance Agency**



7320 Griffin Rd, #100  
Davie, FL 33314  
(954) 587-8008  
[AEG1933@aol.com](mailto:AEG1933@aol.com)

Broward County Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 9644  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310-9644  
954-776-5585 (Editor: **Dr. Barbara K. Pryor**)  
WarblerEmail: warbler@browardaudubon.org  
Website: <http://www.browardaudubon.org>

Published six times a year by the Broward County Audubon Society, Inc., a non-profit corporation, since January 12, 1956.

NON-PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
FT. LAUD., FL  
PERMIT NO. 1126

Meetings At: **Fern Forest Nature Center**

201 Lyons Rd. South  
Coconut Creek 33063  
(954) 970-0150

**From I-95 and Atlantic Blvd:** Go west to South Lyons Road, go south to entrance of Nature Center.

**From US441/SR7 and W. Atlantic Blvd:** Go east to South Lyons Road, go south to entrance of Nature Center.

**From South by Florida Turnpike:** Exit at Atlantic Blvd. Go west one light to South Lyons Road, go south to entrance of Nature Center.

**From North by Florida Turnpike:** Exit Pompano Beach, go right at light onto Coconut Creek Pkwy. Go West to S. Lyons Rd (NW 46th Ave). Turn left, continue across Atlantic Blvd to entrance of Nature Center.



# The Warbler

## The Newsletter of the Broward County Audubon Society

### Inside this issue:

- President's Message
- Fort De Soto Weekend Trip
- Conservation News
- First Audubon Academy A Big Success!!
- BCAS Preservation Land Sale
- Broward Birding Hot Spots
  - ◊ BCAS Sponsors:2004-2005
  - ◊ BIRDATHON—SAT. 4/9/05

### SPECIAL END-OF-THE-YEAR BIRD WALK AND PICNIC—SAT. 5/21/05

#### FERN FOREST NATURE CENTER:

**9:00 AM—Meet at Parking Lot for Bird walk**

Picnic Follows Afterwards in the Pavilion (Near Parking Lot)

We're on the web:  
[browardaudubon.org](http://browardaudubon.org)

Volume 50  
Issue5  
April 2005

*Conservation, Community, Commitment.*



### FERN FOREST NATURE CENTER SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2005

*COME JOIN US FOR A VERY SPECIAL  
BCAS END-OF-YEAR BIRD WALK AND PICNIC!!  
SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2005*

**9:00 AM—WE MEET AT THE FERN FOREST  
NATURE CENTER PARKING LOT FOR BIRD WALK!!  
THE PICNIC FOLLOWS AFTERWARDS IN  
THE PAVILION (NEAR PARKING LOT)!!**

*PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS SPECIAL BCAS END-OF-THE-YEAR EVENT!!*