



Tropical Audubon Bulletin

Newsletter of the Tropical Audubon Society



5530 Sunset Drive; Miami, Florida 33143

(305) 667-7337

September/October 2003

Audubon Of Florida President and CEO

Dr. Stuart D. Strahl Migrating North

After eleven years with Audubon, including the last seven in leadership roles with Audubon of Florida, Dr. Stuart Strahl announced today that he has accepted the position of President and CEO of the Chicago Zoological Society, effective in August.

Strahl leaves Audubon at a point when it is stronger than ever throughout Florida. "Over the past four years Audubon has witnessed remarkable growth and strengthening of our core mission," said AOF Board Chairman Richard Pettigrew. "Stuart has been a terrific asset for Audubon, and we are confident that he will continue to be a dynamic leader as his career advances to this new level."

Audubon of Florida houses the strongest state-based group of conservation professionals in our institution's history. AOF's Everglades team is involved in every aspect of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). Audubon's policy staff provides leadership in the Legislature, Congress and before statewide Water Management Districts and federal agencies. Audubon of Florida's grassroots and chapter leadership network has never been stronger. Forty-three chapters help maintain a vibrant

membership of over 35,000 state-wide. Audubon's sanctuaries and centers include the popular Corkscrew Swamp near Naples and Florida's myriad Coastal Island Bird Sanctuaries. Audubon also plays a critical part-



Good Luck Stuart from your friends at Tropical Audubon!

nership role in management of the Kissimmee Prairie Preserve and part of the Lake Okeechobee marsh. Audubon's outreach, communications and education programs and staff now service the entire diversity of Florida's residents. Our education programs provide hands-on field trip experiences to tens of thousands of children, adults and families, most of whom would not otherwise experience nature first-hand.

Most importantly, Audubon of Florida's two-dozen conservation priorities, brought each year to our Audubon Assembly from six chapter-led regional conservation committees, reflect the most democratic process of issue priorities in the National Audubon family or among state conservation groups.

Stuart spent his formative years working for another major zoological institution, the New York Zoological Society (Wildlife Conservation Society), where he began his conservation career over 25 years ago. "I'm returning to my core area of expertise in conservation education and international involvement," he stated, "but wherever I go, Florida's magnificent natural areas from the Everglades to the Panhandle, will always be a part of my sense of conservation purpose."

In addition to serving as President and CEO for Audubon of Florida, Stuart has been a valued member of the Board of Directors for Tropical Audubon for many years. We will miss him!

Dr. Mark Kraus, Deputy State Director for AOF, will serve as interim President/CEO until the completion of the search process for Stuart's successor.

Get your Checklists here!!!

Do you have the best South Florida bird checklist? Tropical Audubon Society does and wants to share it with you. The Checklist of South Florida Birds covers the areas from Lake Okeechobee south to the Dry Tortugas. It was compiled by David L. Lysinger in 2001 and funded by the Sears-Swetland Family Foundation. This checklist has room for additional sightings, like butterflies, mammals, herps, etc. What a great way to keep track of the critters in your yard! Please send \$2 and a #10 stamped self-addressed envelope to TAS at 5530 Sunset Dr., Miami, FL 33143 and...

...We will happily send you a copy of The Checklist of South Florida Birds!!



Did you know?



- ⊕ TAS conducts over 70 nature-oriented field trips every year
- ⊕ TAS has helped to dramatically increase the canopy of native vegetation in Miami-Dade County through its native plant programs, including a pineland and hammock restoration at the TAS property
- ⊕ TAS hosts several environmental education events for Miami-Dade County public school kids every year
- ⊕ TAS houses an extensive nature library that is free for the public to use and where members have borrowing privileges
- ⊕ TAS led the fight to defeat an application that would have permanently destroyed 140 acres of upland habitat in south Miami-Dade County and that our efforts helped secure permanent protection for the site
- ⊕ TAS helped to defeat a development expansion proposal that would have allowed for the construction of dozens of new lots on top of seagrasses in Biscayne Bay
- ⊕ TAS is working with Biscayne National Park and other partners to identify potential lands for acquisition that are crucial to the protection of the Park's fragile resources
- ⊕ TAS is the **ONLY** local organization which fights for the conservation of Biscayne Bay

on all fronts, by advocating for resource protection and championing ways to reduce development impacts and other adverse human impacts.

and did you know that...

... **YOUR** contributions are the **SOLE** source of support for our critical conservation advocacy work?

Did you know that TAS has started a new Donor Appreciation Program?

\$50 ***White-crowned Pigeon***
Special recognition in the TAS Bulletin.

\$100 ***Painted Bunting***
Pigeon benefits plus a certificate for a free plant at a TAS plant sale.

\$250 ***Purple Gallinule***
Bunting benefits plus an autographed copy of Everglades Wildflowers by Roger Hammer.

\$500 ***Great White Heron***
Gallinule benefits plus a semi-annual lunch briefing on TAS conservation issues with TAS Board Members plus 1 year free membership.

\$1000 ***Roseate Spoonbill***
Heron benefits plus a natural history tour to the Everglades with a TAS guide for Spoonbill and Kite members only plus 2 years free membership.

\$5000 ***Swallow-tailed Kite***
Spoonbill benefits plus a private natural history tour for a group of donor's invitees to a South Florida area of donor's choosing, plus 3 years free membership.

If you have already responded to our "did you know" letter - thank you so much for your support, your contribution will be recognized in our next edition. If you didn't receive a letter and would like to become a donor to TAS, check out our new Donor Appreciation Levels above, then make a check out to TAS and mail it to Tropical Audubon Society at:

5530 Sunset Drive; Miami, Florida 33143

Tropical Audubon Society (TAS) is a group of dedicated citizens who care about the quality of South Florida's environment. Established in 1947, we are a chapter of National Audubon Society and Florida Audubon Society. Our headquarters, the Doc Thomas House, is a Dade County Historic site on three subtropical acres of native habitat in South Miami.

Tropical Audubon's purposes are:

- 1) Conservation: to work toward protection of the natural world and to promote wise stewardship of natural resources, especially native plants and animals and their habitat.
- 2) Education: to promote, among members and the public of all ages, an understanding and appreciation of nature, the environment, and ecological relationships.

3) Enjoyment: as a society of members with compatible interests, to enjoy together the study and protection of nature. We believe in the wisdom of nature's design. We seek to foster and promote ecological conscientiousness in our community.

Editor: Cathy Coates
Desk Top Publishing: Steven Mumford

Tropical Audubon Bulletin, the official newsletter of the Tropical Audubon Society, is published bimonthly by the Tropical Audubon Society, a non-profit, 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization. Throughout this newsletter, "TAS" refers to the Tropical Audubon Society, while "DTH" refers to the Doc Thomas House, the site of our office located at 5530 Sunset

Drive; Miami, Florida 33143. The phone number is (305) 667-7337. Membership rate, \$20 per year. Please make your checks payable to Tropical Audubon Society, and mail to our office (address above). Articles, news of events, original drawings, and letters to the Editor are welcomed, and should be submitted to the TAS office 4 weeks prior to each by-monthly publication. It would be preferable if your copy were submitted via the internet. See the "About TAS" section of our website for more information.

Visit Tropical Audubon on the internet at:
<http://tropicalaudubon.org>

Fight for Water Puts Everglades at Risk

The St. Petersburg Times recently reported that a major business alliance will soon issue a report suggesting new ways to manage Florida's water supplies. The Council of 100 will make proposals to Governor Jeb Bush that are thought to include a new statewide water authority with the power to order water to be moved from one part of the state to another.

Audubon has predicted such a move and declared last year that the struggle to provide water for Florida's golf course development community would place natural systems at risk. Current Florida water policy favors human use rather than environmental protection. Permit decision after decision leaves lakes, swamps, aquifers and springs to do with less, even if fish and wildlife are harmed.

During the 2003 session of the Florida Legislature, developers proposed a bill eliminating from state law the one tool available to put environmental water off limits to new developments. The proposed legislation would have eliminated legal protection for natural water systems. This tool is called "reservations" and involves reserving water in places and times to protect fish and wildlife. That means a new water use permit could not be issued for water that has been reserved. The measure failed due to grassroots and wise political opposition, however we

expect another hostile attempt at pushing this misguided initiative.

This legal tool for protecting water for the environment has only been used once, for Paines Prairie near Gainesville. However, the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan anticipates reserving water for the natural system. This notion has become so objectionable to some of Florida's big developers that they have leveraged legislators to strike the provision from the law or make its use so cumbersome, no water would ever be protected from the relentless demands of growth.

There are other tools in state law that attempt to balance competing water needs. Applicants for water use permits have to claim a reasonable and beneficial use, not take water from another permit holder and meet a relatively undefined public interest test. However, in permit decisions, while the applicant can advocate for his interest, the environmental voice within current state government is often silent.

State law requires regional water managers to have water supply plans that anticipate sources and uses. These plans conceptually assume environmental water protection. But in reality, the plans are about squeezing enough water out of nature and alter-

native supplies to satisfy predicted growth. There are not complementary water resource plans.

Audubon and its allies in the Florida Water Coalition are looking at ways to improve the state water policy to place more of a priority on water for nature. Of course, when we say water for nature, we are talking about one of Florida's most important underlying economic goals. While some live in Florida to escape harsh weather, undemocratic third world governments and economic conditions, many people are here for the benefit of a nature-based economy.

As the abuse of such places as Tampa Bay, Indian River Lagoon and the Everglades have demonstrated, there are significant economic benefits and costs associated with water for the environment. Many people live and work where they do because clean freshwater means fishing, boating, hunting and wildlife observation and the very experience of outdoor ambiance.

Florida water policy is flowing toward the idea of supporting out of control growth in our state. Audubon, its allies in the Florida Water Coalition and others are now making the case that water for the environment is a bit more important than the next round of unneeded golf courses.

Environmental Protection In the Caribbean seeks volunteers for Board of Directors

Environmental Protection In the Caribbean (EPIC) is a research, conservation, and outreach non-profit organization founded in 2000. EPIC's mission is to promote Caribbean basin conservation biology by providing long term research and community based remedies to environmental problems, with attention to the Lesser Antilles. As a registered 501(c)(3) organization, EPIC uses tax-deductible cash and in-kind donations and foundation grants to run field programs such as bird research, mangrove planting, and environmental education with limited overhead expenses. For more information on program activities please see www.epicislands.org.

EPIC seeks highly motivated individuals with a passion for Caribbean conservation to join the Board of Directors and provide leadership in development. Persons with fundraising or Board of Director experience are encouraged to apply. EPIC is a young yet exceptionally active organization and the future holds exciting potential for those who wish to make a difference. For more information or to submit an application for the Board of Directors, please contact Natalia Collier, Executive Director at:
Email: ncollier@epicislands.org; Phone: (805) 717-9258
Address: 200 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Riviera Beach, FL 33404

Internet Advocacy Center

Communicating to public policy makers is an integral part of democracy. Audubon of Florida provides an Internet Advocacy Center on the Audubon of Florida web site

www.audubonofflorida.org that makes it easy to fax, email, or download letters (to mail) on important environmental issues that impact Florida. Want to personalize the letters? No problem, you can edit letters to fit your own perspective.

Using the latest Internet technology, the Advocacy Center provides concerned citizens with a personalized web page that assists in taking action at key times and tracking critical conservation issues around the state. The Advocacy Center keeps track of issues you take action on (what are the results of your action?), issue updates, and a secure personal workspace allowing you to update your contact information, and receive one or both of Audubon of Florida's e-

newsletters, Restore and Audubon Advocate.

Sign up today for free and help move conservation in Florida move forward! Visit www.audubonofflorida.org and sign up through the e-newsletter or Advocacy Center link.

Do you eBird?

Have you used eBird yet? This new applied citizen science tool allows anyone to report any bird species anywhere anytime. eBird is joint venture of Audubon and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology that opens a new era of citizen science.

We have a window of opportunity. Today, the vast majority of the species of birds in North America still exist in viable numbers in some remnant of suitable habitat. Today, we who love birds and the natural world in general exist in greater numbers than ever before, and those numbers are growing rapidly.

You can help us count birds for conservation! You can participate in eBird at your level of ability and comfort. Remember, you will double your impact if you take along a friend; and you'll multiply it many times over if you include a scout troop or a class of kids.

Check out eBird through the Audubon website at

www.audubon.org/bird/ebird/index.html

*Gas Prices Got You Down?***"TAS-UP" Your Vehicle**

Check out these great money saving and pollution prevention tips from Miami-Dade County and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

- ⊕ **Lighten Up:** every extra 100 pounds reduces fuel efficiency by 1/2 gallon per mile.
- ⊕ **Pump Up:** Tire drag can increase fuel consumption 4 to 8%.
- ⊕ **Trade Up:** Trade in your vehicle for a car with a better fuel efficiency rating. An increase in 10 mpg can save you \$200 or more per year!
- ⊕ **Don't Top Your Tank:** Stop when the fuel pump automatically shuts off so you don't damage the smog control equipment on the pump.
- ⊕ **Don't Idle:** Idling more than 30 seconds uses more fuel than stopping and restarting your engine.
- ⊕ **Carpool:** 2 People in the car doubles the per person efficiency, three people triples it!
- ⊕ **Reduce Global Warming:** Take a bike, walk, take a bus or use the metrorail.
- ⊕ **Recycle:** Call 1-800-741-4DEP to find motor oil recyclers near you.
- ⊕ **Keep it Clean:** Don't discard used automotive products into storm drains, sinks or on the ground.

Buy via TAS

Dear Gentle Readers, Please don't forget that every time you make a purchase from Eagle Optics and Amazon.com by going to their web sites **via** the links from www.tropicalaudubon.org, Tropical Audubon receives a commission! It's a great way for your favorite environmental organization (TAS!) to earn a few extra dollars. Remember: first go to www.tropicalaudubon.org, then click the link to Eagle Optics for great prices on binoculars and scopes or Amazon.com for books, music, and just about anything else. It's quick, easy, doesn't cost you anything more and supports a great cause. Thank you!

Sell via TAS

The Tropical Bulletin Can Work for You!! Looking for a good place to advertise your business or for sale items? Tropical would be thrilled to help you reach your market in the Bulletin and/or on our website. We publish every other month to approximately 2700 households throughout Miami-Dade County. Our rates are reasonable and you help defray the Bulletin costs. We thank whole-heartedly all of the underwriters you see in this issue and previous ones. To see how we can help you, please Contact advertising@tropicalaudubon.org



SPEAK YOUR MIND!



The South Miami-Dade Watershed Study and Plan is being undertaken to help meet the natural system requirements of a healthy Biscayne Bay and southern Miami-Dade County, while considering other "quality of life" characteristics, such as economic development, community character and infrastructure needs. This 26-month study will culminate in a plan, a set of recommendations to the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners, and should guide land use planning in South

Miami-Dade County for the next fifty years. TAS is on the Advisory Team and is already active in the process.

www.southmiamidadewatershed.com

and/or by attending one of the following public meetings:

The consultant chosen to conduct the Study is holding the first public meetings in late September. This is your opportunity to make it clear that you value environmental conservation over competing needs such as accomodating more growth. Make it a priority to become engaged in this process. You can learn more by calling Tropical Audubon (305 666 2842) or by checking out

Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2003
 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
 Univ. of Florida Extension Office
 Miami-Dade County Cooperative Extension
 (Ag Center)
 18710 SW 288th Street
 Homestead, Florida 33303
 Free Parking

Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2003
 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
 Dave and Mary Alper Jewish Comm. Center
 The Youth and Adult Lounge
 11155 SW 112 Avenue
 Miami, Florida 33176
 Free Parking

Thank You!!!

As always, Tropical Audubon appreciates the donations of our wonderful friends. The following individuals and businesses made significant contributions towards the Monofilament Recovery and Recycling Program and Special Event on August 2nd:

- The INCREDIBLE Just Family!
 (Rick, Ryan and Robin)
 Blair Retchin
 First Choice Pet Products
 Esslinger Wooten & Maxwell, Inc.
 Fred & Lucy Kohly
 Tom & Bonnie Williamson
 Richard & Jena Congdon
 Peterson's Harley-Davidson
 South
 John Sheldon and
 AA-Lift Crane Service

Individuals who have made donations to TAS above membership dues include:

- Janice & Joseph Grimes
 Elizabeth B. Young
 James McCarthy
 David & Ruth McWilliams

Thank you one and all!!

TAS GENERAL MEETINGS

Our monthly meetings are free and open to members and non-members alike. The doors open to the Doc Thomas House (5530 Sunset, Miami) at 7:30pm with the presentations beginning at 8pm.

Wed. Oct. 8, - "**Butterflies of South Florida**" by **Bob Kelley** Bob Kelley is a professor of mathematics at the University of Miami, a long time TAS board member and a frequent leader of TAS bird and butterfly trips. He has coordinated the Coral Gables North American Butterfly Association Butterfly Count for the past 8 years and conducted regular butterfly surveys for the same period at the Charles Deering Estate and Fairchild Tropical Gardens. This presentation will be interesting for anyone who would like to know more about our local butterflies and the plants that attract them. It will also be particularly useful for those who may be planning to join Bob's introductory nature observation classes scheduled for October 16 and 18.

Wed., Nov. 12 - "**Restoring the Everglades: Great expectations and huge uncertainties!**" by John Ogden John Ogden started his career as a research biologist at Everglades National Park in 1965. Since then he has been largely focused on Everglades issues including 17 years with the NPS in the Everglades, 14 years with the National Audubon Society as a research biologist and 7 years as a senior scientist for the South Florida Water Management District. He now co-leads the SFWMD multi-agency science team in support of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. John has been a member of the recovery teams for the Wood Stork, the American Crocodile and the California Condor. He served as the first President of the Waterbird Society and was elected to a Fellow in the American Ornithologists' Union. Tropical Audubon has hosted John for presentations in the past and is happy to welcome him back.

TAS CALENDAR

CALENDAR OF WALKS, WORKDAYS, FESTIVALS, SALES, CLASSES - EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO DO WITH TROPICAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
The specifics for Tropical's ongoing activities are indicated below. In some cases, the trip leader has included his email address and phone number for direct contact. Otherwise, please call TAS at 305 667 PEEP (7337) or email tas007@tropicalaudubon.org, or see our web page <http://tropicalaudubon.org> for more information.

Sat., Sept. 20 - Virginia Key / Key Biscayne Fall Migration Count Paul Bithorn will lead a bird count on Virginia Key and Key Biscayne. Meet in the west end of the Seaquarium parking lot on the Rickenbacker Causeway at 7:30am. Participants will carpool to the Bill Baggs / Cape Florida State Recreation Area, and other destinations on both Virginia Key and Key Biscayne. There will be an entrance fee to the park and the causeway toll.

Sat., Sept. 20 - Workday at the Doc Thomas House Want to learn about native plants, help Tropical maintain our native landscape at the Doc Thomas House and get your hands dirty? We need you! Show up anytime between 8:30-noon and you will find a host of hard workers.

Sun., Sept. 21 - A.D. Barnes Park Bird Walk Jeff Weber and Jill Rosenfield will lead birders through A.D. Barnes Park. Enter on SW 72nd Ave. just north of Bird Rd. (SW 40th St.) and take the first left to park near the baseball fields. Meet at 7:30am, returning at approximately 11:00am.

Sat., Sept. 27 - Matheson Hammock Bird Walk Juan Villamil, Kevin Sarsfield and Joe Barros will lead birders through Matheson Hammock on Old Cutler Rd. immediately north of Fairchild Gardens. The group meets in the parking area on the left inside the park entrance at 7:30am. Return is at approximately 11:00am.

Sat.-Sun., Sept. 27-28 - Native Plant Sale at the Doc Thomas House Our native plant sales are famous and fun. We have a great selection of South Florida plants with knowledgeable sales people to help you choose the best ones for your yard. Come early for the best selection, stay late to enjoy the company. 8am - end of day, 5530 Sunset Dr. near Red Rd.

Sun., Sept. 28 - Kendall Indian Hammocks Bird Walk Brian Rapoza will lead a group through Kendall Indian Hammocks at 11345 SW 79th St. The entrance is on the west side of SW 112th Ave. at SW 79th St. The group meets in the parking area adjacent to the baseball field at 7:30am, returning at approximately 11:00am.

Sat., Oct. 4 - Middle Keys Hawk Watch/ Florida Keys Birding Festival This is an all day carpool event, led by John Boyd, to the official Keys hawkwatch site at Curry Hammock State Park (mile marker 56). Meet at 7:30am at the east gate (SW 55th Ave.) of the Doc Thomas property (5530 Sunset Drive, South Miami), or proceed directly to Curry Hammock State Park. Bring lunch. Call or email Tropical, or check the Florida Keys Birding Festival website at <http://www.keysbirdingfestival.org> for more information.

Sun., Oct 5 - A.D. Barnes Park Bird Walk Gigi Pardo will lead, see September 21st listing.

Sat., Oct. 11 - Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary / Marco Island Birding Brian Rapoza will

lead an all day carpool event to Collier County east of Naples. Meet at 6am at the east gate (on SW 55th Ave.) of the Doc Thomas property (5530 Sunset Drive, South Miami). There is an admission fee for Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary (discount for Audubon members), as well as for Tigertail Beach on Marco Island. Bring lunch and wading shoes.

Sat., Oct. 11 - Workday at the Doc Thomas House See September 20th listing.

Sun., Oct. 12 - Virginia Key / Key Biscayne Bird Walk Ellen and Todd Snow will lead, see Sept. 20th listing.

Sun., Oct. 12 - Beginning Botany Class at Matheson Hammock Park Rick Cohen will teach aspiring botanists while wandering Matheson Hammock. Meet at 9:00AM in the parking area on the left just inside the main gate on Old Cutler Road. Contact Rick for more information at rickc@tropicalaudubon.org or 305 667 7337. Fee: \$10.00 members, \$12.00 nonmembers.

NEW! Thurs. and Sat., Oct. 16 and 18 - Learn to bird! Birding 101 with Bob Kelley - This is a new, 2-part program focusing on the birds, beasts and butterflies of South Florida. On Thurs., Oct. 16 at the Doc Thomas House (5530 Sunset, Miami), Bob will cover nature watching basics and present slides of some of our native species. On Sat., Oct. 18, you can put this newly found knowledge to use on a walk in a local park. Contact Bob at RKelley@math.miami.edu, or call 305-666 9246 for more information. Fee required: \$10 for an individual TAS member/\$15 for TAS member families / \$15 for nonmember individuals/\$20 for nonmember families (family prices include as many kids as you want to bring). Children and adults will enjoy this class. Join us!!

Sat., Oct. 18 - South Dade Birding David LaPuma will lead this all day carpool trip, which may include stops at Lucky Hammock, Mary Krome Park, and Dump Marsh. Meet at 7:00AM in the parking lot of the Burger King on US1 in Florida City (just after the end of the turnpike). This is an all day trip. Bring lunch.

Sun., Oct. 19 - A.D. Barnes Park Bird Walk Mickey Wheeler and Jill Rosenfield will lead, see September 21st listing.

Thursday - Saturday, Oct 23-25 Audubon Assembly

Held at the Rosen Plaza hotel in Orlando, Audubon of Florida's annual Assembly will feature central Florida-area field trips, expert speakers, educational seminars and more.

See www.audubonofflorida.org for more information.

Sat., Oct. 25 - Wakodahatchee Wetlands Birding Ellen and Todd Snow will lead this carpool trip. Meet at 7:00am at Hollywood City Hall, Or at 7:45 AM at Wakodahatchee (13026 Jog Road, about 1.5 miles north of Atlantic Avenue in Delray Beach.) Bring lunch.

Sat., Nov. 1 - Shark Valley / Loop Road Birding Paul Bithorn and Juan Villamil will lead this carpool trip. Meet at 7am at the east gate (SW 55th Ave.) of the Doc Thomas property (5530 Sunset Drive, South Miami). Bring lunch.

Sun., Nov. 2 - Charles Deering Estate Nature Walk Rick Cohen will emphasize the botanical and geological features found in the 420 acre park. The park entrance is located just east of Old Cutler Rd. on SW 168th Street. Wear sturdy shoes. Bring water, hat, and bug spray. Rating: easy to moderate. Reservations required! Contact rickc@tropicalaudubon.org and include your phone number or call 305 667 7337. This is a popular outing and space is limited so call early! Fee: \$10.00 members, \$12.00 nonmembers includes Deering entrance

Sat., Nov. 8 - Everglades National Park Birding Paul Bithorn and Juan Villamil will lead this all day carpool trip. Meet at 6:30am at the east gate (SW 55th Ave.) of the Doc Thomas property (5530 Sunset Drive, South Miami) OR in the parking lot of the Coe Visitor Center at Everglades National park at 7:30am. There is an entrance fee to the park. Bring lunch.

Sat., Nov. 15 - Marco Island /Briggs Nature Center Birding Brian Rapoza will lead this all day carpool trip. Meet at 6:30am at the east gate (SW 55th Ave.) of the Doc Thomas property (5530 Sunset Drive, South Miami). Bring lunch and wading footwear.

Sat., Nov. 15 - Workday at the Doc Thomas House See September 20th listing.

Sat., Nov 22 - South Florida Exotics Trip Paul Bithorn will lead birders in search of parrots, bulbuls, mynas, and other introduced species in this carpool trip. Meet at 1:00pm at the east parking lot of Baptist Hospital (8950 N Kendall Drive).

Sun., Nov. 23 - Fakahatchee Strand State Reserve Nature Walk The Fakahatchee Strand is one of the most botanically rich areas in No. America. It contains the largest stand of Royal palms found in the state, as well as many unusual species of plants. Meet at the Preserve HQ. Wear sturdy shoes and long pants. Be prepared to wade. Bring water, a hat, bug spray, and snacks. A walking stick can be helpful. A change of clothes and shoes at the end is suggested. Rating: moderate to difficult, trail can be wet and muddy. Space is limited to 20. Reservations required. This unique trip is very popular, so call early. Leader: Rick Cohen. For info call 305-667-7337 or e-mail rickc@tropicalaudubon.org

Fee: \$13.00 members, \$15.00 nonmembers

Tropical Audubon Society
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