

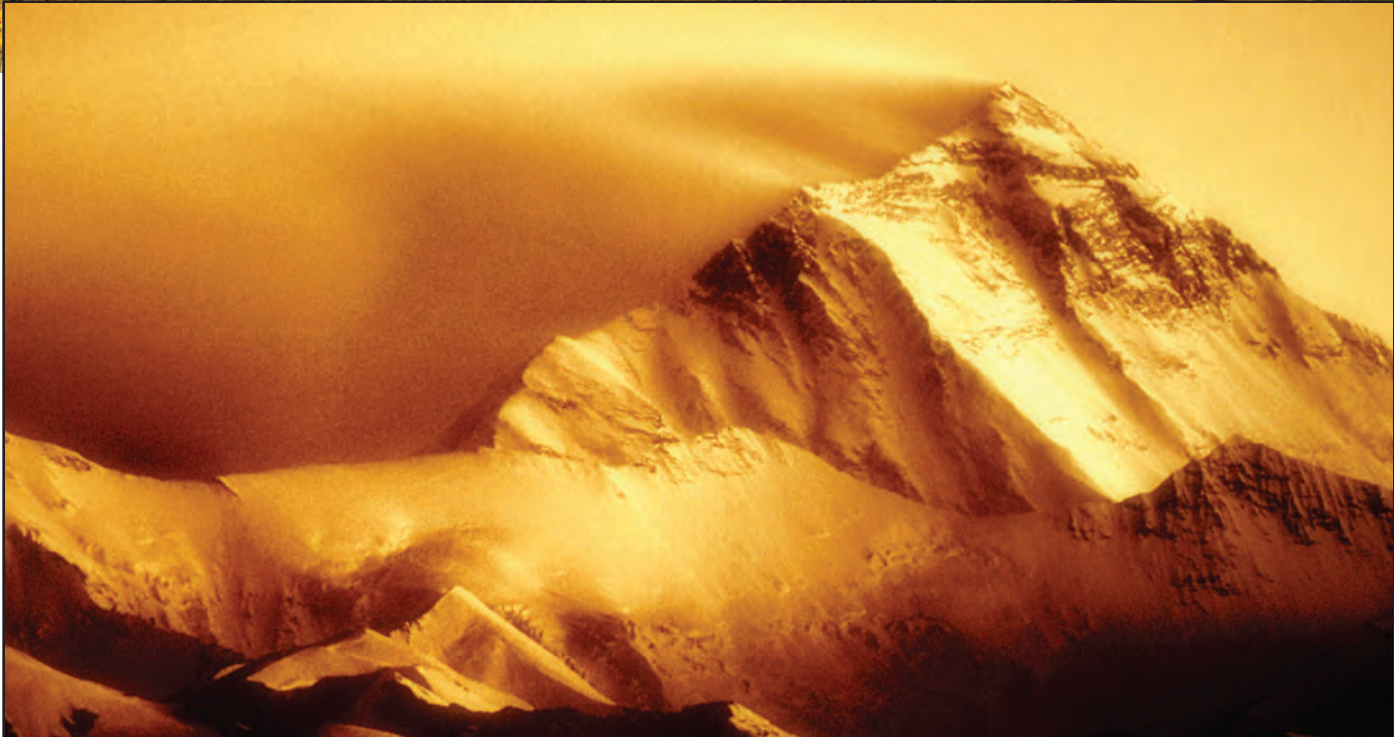
The Space Coast
birding & wildlife
Festival 2009



Presented by

Nikon & *The Brevard Nature Alliance*

Titusville, Florida • January 21-26, 2009
Brevard Community College • North Campus



Chosen to explore Everest, the depths of the oceans, and the far reaches of space.

The world's greatest adventurers have trusted Nikon's legendary ED glass in NIKKOR® lenses to capture some of the most breathtaking imagery ever attempted. | Our engineers have harnessed the superiority of this same highly acclaimed Nikon Extra-low Dispersion glass to push the limits of optical perfection in our new flagship binocular: The EDGE. | A sophisticated optical system, developed with a pallet of innovative, cutting edge—even patent-pending—technologies advances EDG to levels of brightness and resolution that will astonish the most discerning optics user. | Yet setting a new optical standard wasn't the only achievement on the minds of our engineers. Understated styling, uncompromising durability and an ergonomic agility that is nothing short of extraordinary are further traits that will put the EDG into the hands of those whose adventurous spirit and dedication to success demands performance above all else. **Nikon EDG. The Cutting EDGE in Optics – NikonCuttingEDG.com**



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on the cover

Space Coast Belted Kingfisher

Cover photo: Bob Wells, Winner of the 2008 Digiscoping Challenge sponsored by Eagle Optics and Swarovski Optiks

Belted Kingfishers are relatively common along coastal Florida, however they are difficult to digiscope because they are shy and constantly on the move. While digiscoping at Viera Wetlands during the Festival, I heard the kingfisher's distinctive "rattle" and spotted her as she landed on top of a palm snag nearby. She gave me just enough time to focus my scope, get the camera in place and snap the image.

My digiscoping setup consists of a Swarovski 80mm ATS HD angled scope and a Pentax K100D DSLR camera with a 40mm/f2.8 lens.

I've been digiscoping for two years, and find it to be a perfect way to combine my long held love of photography and my relatively new passion for birding.

- Bob Wells, May 26, 2008



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www.VISITFLORIDA.com

This project received financial assistance from VISIT FLORIDA.



www.space-coast.com

Volunteers from this community are the life of every activity offered during the Festival. These dedicated people bring a diverse energy to the tasks that help to make the Festival a success. In all of the evaluations we receive regarding the effectiveness of the Festival, the attitude, helpfulness and caring of the people on the front line of contact have always been given the highest marks of satisfaction.

The 2009 Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival will rely on all volunteer levels to bring competence and dedication for the ultimate success of our efforts to provide an event that will encourage participants to return to Florida's Space Coast.

Every effort was made to assure the accuracy of the information within this publication; however, the Brevard Nature Alliance and Sky Advertising, Inc. cannot guarantee total correctness due to possible human and/or mechanical error.

Page header photo "Coreopsis at Loughman Lake" by DeeAnn Kiesel

Program designed by Sky Advertising, Inc.
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The Mission of the BNA is to promote and protect the environment for nature-based activities. The BNA serves as one of the primary advocates of community-based nature activities in Brevard County, dedicated to the enrichment of our community through an understanding and appreciation of natural resources, nature-based tourism, sensible growth management and ecosystem needs.

For more information or to become a member of the BNA, contact Neta Harris at 321-268-5224 or visit the website - www.natureandspace.com

The Brevard Nature Alliance is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization. The value of your donation may be deductible for tax purposes.

** A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free (800-435-7352) within the State. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the State. Registration #: CH19903 - Florida Solicitation of Contribution Act.

welcome

to the 12th Annual Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival

Presented by Nikon and the Brevard Nature Alliance The trusted name in optics™



The Brevard Nature Alliance is proud to assemble a prestigious group of nationally and internationally recognized scientists, biologists, photographers, ornithologists and naturalists. Additionally, the Alliance is fortunate to continue relationships with the many sponsors, partners and volunteers who support the Festival. Lastly, we could not present this premier event without the variety of bird species that come to us via the Atlantic Flyway and the plethora of wildlife and plants that make their home on Florida's Space Coast.

The Festival focuses on the abundance and diversity of the natural world around us - from the Atlantic Ocean west through the Indian River Lagoon estuary system to the St. Johns River and surrounding wetlands. Educational emphasis is placed on the preservation and management of animals and their habitats, as well as the cultural heritage and historical venues to be found in East Central Florida. The Festival features bird and wildlife watching opportunities, nature and technology tours, boat and kayaking trips, field trips, seminars, workshops, photography sessions and keynote presentations.

NEW INFORMATION ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

The BNA is partnering with the Brevard County Solid Waste Management Department/Recycling Division* to minimize the environmental impact of the Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival through:

- Decreasing the amount of solid waste produced by the event by providing recycle receptacles for paper, metal, plastic and glass.
- Using paperless technology - providing information via the web site (www.nbbd.com/fly), offering electronic registrations and confirmations and doing a large percent of internet advertising.
- Disposing of solid and liquid waste in a responsible manner.
- Encouraging Exhibitors and Food Service vendor to help close the recycling loop by being more environmentally responsible.
- Encouraging the Host Hotel to provide recycling receptacles for paper, metal, plastic and glass as well as implementing other environmental services that meet Green Hotel standards.

Thank you for attending the Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival. Enjoy the Socials each day as they are your chance to meet and mingle with attendees, presenters, field trip leaders, sponsors, and exhibitors from around the world, as well as the Festival staff and volunteers. Be sure to visit Historic Downtown Titusville to stroll through the

specialty shops and enjoy a meal at one of our fine restaurants.

The Brevard Nature Alliance

**We thank Pam Shoemaker, Brevard County Recycling Coordinator, who is providing consulting services and educational materials to Festival planners to assist in turning the event GREEN.*

While many of our activities have become more environmentally responsible, we want to take this opportunity to make our progress known. We have made a concerted effort over the past four years to implement a workable greening plan and we share the five most important actions with you.

We appreciate the encouragement of Festival attendees and their desire to minimize environmental impacts of each Festival.

For information about making your business or event environmentally friendly, please contact Pam at: pam.shoemaker@brevardcounty.us

festival information

Contact the Festival Office by phone: 1-800-460-2664 or 321-268-5224 or by e-mail: neta@natureandspace.com. Mailing address is P. O. Box 517, Titusville, FL 32781-0517. The office is staffed from 9:00am to 4:00pm Monday through Friday. If we are not available, please leave a message and we will get back to you! You may also visit the festival web site: www.nbbd.com/fly/

Office functions will move to the Brevard Community College (BCC), Titusville Campus (1311 North U.S. 1, Titusville, FL 32796) on Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2009 to facilitate the set-up of the Exhibit Center. The Festival Registration Desk is located in the Gymnasium and will be open during the following hours:

Tuesday, Jan. 20, 1:00pm-5:00pm for pick up of ID and Welcome Bag only.

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 6:00am-6:00pm

Thursday, Jan. 22, 6:00am-6:00pm

Friday, Jan. 23, 6:00am-6:00pm

Saturday, Jan. 24, 6:00am-6:00pm

Sunday, Jan. 25, 6:00am-11:00am

The Sunday Social will be at Fox Lake Park on Sunday, Jan. 25, 1:30pm-5:00pm.

The Raptor Project



Sponsored by Nikon Sport Optics

Photo by Ray Scory

Raptor Project founders Jonathan and Susan Wood have assembled a travelling collection of dynamic feathered predators that is unrivaled in scope and size anywhere in the world. A master falconer and wildlife rehabilitator, Jonathan brings unique insights, observations and humor to his riveting, nationally-acclaimed shows. Many of the birds in the Raptor Project have permanent handicaps, but have now been tamed and trained to educate the public as charming ambassadors of their species and the environments they inhabit. Jonathan works with birds in a wide range of sizes, from small falcons and owls weighing 3 to 4 ounces to majestic eagles with 6 to 8 foot

wingspans. Featuring 15 to 20 raptors from diverse habitats at each show, these fierce predators capture the hearts of both young and old. Following each show, Jonathan will do an outdoor flying demonstration.

www.raptorproject.com

www.nikonsportoptics.com

Show Times:

Thu., Jan. 22: 12:00pm, 2:00pm

Fri., Jan. 23: 9:30am, 1:00pm, 3:30pm

Sat., Jan. 24: 10:00am, 2:00pm, 3:30pm



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how to get here

The Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival is based at Brevard Community College (BCC) - Titusville Campus, 1311 N. US1. Registration desk, seminars, workshops, field trip staging, exhibits, and food service can be found there January 21-25, 2009.

If You Are Driving:

Take Interstate 95 to Titusville.

- From the south, exit at SR406 (Exit 220). Go east to US1. Go north on US1 for 1.9 miles. BCC is on the right, just north of the Parrish Medical Center.
- From the north, exit at SR46 (Exit 223). Go east to US1. Go south on US1 for 2.4 miles. BCC will be on the left.

If You Are Flying:

- From Orlando International Airport: Go east on SR528 (Beachline/Toll Road) to I-95 (follow the sign that directs you to I-95 North). Go north on I-95. Follow above driving directions coming from the south.
- From Melbourne International Airport: Follow signs directing you from the Airport to I-95. Go north on I-95. Follow above driving directions coming from the south.
- From Daytona International Airport: Follow signs directing you from the Airport to I-95. Go south on I-95. Follow driving directions coming from the north.

Food service (including vegetarian and heart healthy items) will be available from Hot Stuff Catering at the snack bar located in the Gymnasium. Tables are available there and outside in the Pavilion area. Coffee and breakfast items will be available each morning prior to bus departure. Water is available in coolers on each Field Trip bus and per bottle for car pools - please pick up at the Registration Desk.

We look forward to helping you enjoy the Festival!

exhibit center

visitor friendly

The Exhibit Center is an important aspect of the Festival and we invite you to visit all

exhibitors, as they will have unique and quality items. Artists, craft persons, businesses and organizations specializing in nature and wildlife, birding, photography, optics and nature-tourism are well represented.

Seminars and field trips are arranged so that there will be ample time to view beautiful art and craftwork, find out more about this area or buy that perfect gift or accessory.

The Exhibit Center is located in the Gymnasium at Brevard Community College, Titusville Campus.

Exhibit hours are:

Wednesday, Jan. 21, from 1:00pm-6:00pm

Thursday, Jan. 22, from 12:00pm-6:00pm

Friday, Jan. 23, from 9:00am-6:00pm

Saturday, Jan. 24, from 9:00am-6:00pm

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www.creativestore.com

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Florida Public Archaeology Network

Florida State Parks

Florida Trail Association

Forever Florida/Florida EcoSafaris

Marine Science Center

Merritt Island Wildlife Association

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Space Coast Paddlers Club

St. Johns River Water Management District

Titusville Art League

Titusville Area Chamber of Commerce

Titusville Area Visitors Council

Travelynx

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

www.VisitTitusville.com

We encourage you to patronize the sponsors, partners, and advertisers and visit the parks and preserves that have so generously donated staff and access for this event. Through their support, they have made a commitment to protect our natural resources.

area hotels

Ask for the 2009 Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival discount.

Clarion Inn - Kennedy Space Center
2009 Festival Host Hotel

Titusville321-269-2121

Best Western Space Shuttle Inn

Titusville321-269-9100

Comfort Inn

Titusville800-715-7110

Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott

Titusville321-385-1818

Hampton Inn Titusville/Kennedy Space Center

Titusville321-383-9191

LaQuinta Inns & Suites

Cocoa Beach.....800-795-2252, Ext. 0

Ramada Inn & Suites

Titusville321-269-5510

Super 8 - Kennedy Space Center

Titusville321-269-9310

area camping & rv parks

Cape Kennedy KOA

Mims.....321-269-7361

Crystal Lake RV Park

Scottsmoor/Mims321-268-8555

Great Outdoors Golf & Country Club

Titusville321-269-5004

Loughman Lake Campground & RV Park

Mims.....321-268-2277

Manatee Hammock Campground

Titusville321-264-5083

Seasons in the Sun RV Park

Mims.....321-385-0440

Willow Lakes RV Park

Mims.....321-269-7440

silent auction

to benefit the festival

You are invited to donate one or more items for auction. Items should be new and never used. Please contact Barb Hoelscher at 321-268-5888 or e-mail bhoelscher@cfl.rr.com to arrange for receiving donated items. Your generous donations will be acknowledged.

Welcome Bidders: The Silent Auction will run during the Festival from 1:00pm on Wednesday, Jan. 21 to an undisclosed time on Saturday afternoon, Jan 24. Winners will be posted at the Silent Auction booth at 4:30pm on Saturday, Jan 24. Winners may pick up their items Saturday, 4:30pm to 7:00pm, and Sunday morning, 8:00am to 11:00am.

We will be glad to ship your Silent Auction winnings to you. Shipping and handling will be added to the winning bid amounts. Please make your shipping arrangements with Lois Wilson and Barb Hoelscher at the Silent Auction booth prior to 11:00am Sunday.

welcome reception

The Festival Opening Welcome Reception will be held in the Exhibit Center on Wednesday, Jan. 23 from 5:00pm-6:30pm. Wine, beverages and hors d'oeuvres will be served by Hot Stuff Catering. Greet old friends, make new ones, meet the speakers and field trip leaders and visit with the exhibitors.

www.reliant.com/corporate

Registrants Free; Non-Registrants \$10

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keynote socials

A daily afternoon Social preceding the evening Keynote Presentation will be held in the Exhibit Center Thursday through Saturday from 5pm to 6pm. Wine, beverages and light snacks will be served by Hot Stuff Catering. Exhibitors will welcome visits to their booths - you might find that special item or gift for which you have been looking! Stroll through the Festival Art Competition entries. Many of these items may be purchased. **Beverages and water furnished by Pepsi and Aquafina.**

Registrants Free; Non-Registrants \$7.50 for each function

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WINGSCAPES

Win a FREE BirdCam from Wingscapes!

sunday social at fox lake park

Join the Festival crew and fellow birders, and bring your friends and family for a relaxing afternoon in a beautiful natural setting. Listen to R.G. Evans who will entertain you with some familiar toe-tapping music. Chris Wood and Jessie Barry will answer the questions posed by Festival attendees who visited the Cornell Lab of Ornithology booth and present awards to the participants.

The highlight of the afternoon will be an outstanding Keynote Presentation by Pete Dunne, who will talk about "Twenty-Five Things That Have Changed Birding." Pete will be available to answer your questions about the Cape May Bird Observatory, the World Series of Birding, the many books he has authored, and the book on which he is now working.

Menu: BBQ pulled pork, chicken, baked beans, cole slaw, rolls, and Hot Stuff Catering's famous 7-layer cookies and double chocolate brownies. A big crowd pleaser is a variety of Dixie Crossroads' wild ocean shrimp with crab bites and chicken wings, along with beer, wine and soft drinks. Vegetarian lasagna will be available.

Jan. 25, 1:30pm-5:00pm; Lunch and Keynote Presentation \$25; \$5 for children under 12; Keynote presentation only \$15

Directions: From BCC Titusville, go south on US1 to Garden St. Turn right on Garden St. and go under I-95 to the end of Garden at the 4-way stop. Turn left on Carpenter Rd. and follow it to the end. Turn right on Fox Lake Rd. and go west to Fox Lake Park.

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digiscoping challenge 2009

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Eagle Optics and Swarovski Optik are proud to present the 3rd Annual Space Coast Digiscoping Challenge.

Eagle Optics and Swarovski Optik are once again teaming up to showcase digiscoped images taken by attendees of the 12th Annual Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival. All images collected at the festival will be displayed

on the Eagle Optics website, where the public can view them and vote for their favorite. The image that receives the most votes will be published in the 2010 Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival program.

Five of the Digiscoping Challenge entrants will also be randomly selected to win a Swarovski Extremadura Backpack.

Digiscoping is a fun and easy way to document your birding experiences. We encourage you to visit the Swarovski and Eagle Optics booths to learn more. While there, you can pick up an entry form.

www.eagleoptics.com
www.swarovskioptik.at

2009 art competition

Welcome to the 2009 Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival Art Competition Sponsored by Dynamac Corporation and Bushnell Outdoor Products

The Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival and The Titusville Art League (T.A.L.) are proud to present the 8th Annual Art Competition. This traditional Festival event is made possible through the exceptional generosity of Dynamac Corporation and Bushnell Outdoor Products. You are cordially invited to enter this competition, which is designed to inspire quality art forms that reflect an appreciation for the natural environments and ecosystems of Florida. Local artists, adults and children, have an opportunity to show their works in a competitive and friendly venue. All competition entries will be on display at Brevard Community College, Titusville Campus Gymnasium, from Wednesday, Jan. 21 through Saturday, Jan. 24, 2008. All entries will be judged on how well they express the natural environments and ecosystems of Florida. First place in each category will receive \$225, with all prize monies totaling over \$1,700. There will be a Poster Contest for children. Top Prize for the winning poster is a \$50 gift certificate, with a special \$100 award given to the school art department of the poster entry winner.

For more information contact Candi Thorpe, T.A.L. Board Member, at 321-383-7774 or e-mail sugarfreecandi@aol.com. Please print out the Art Competition Rules and Registration Form at www.nbbd.com/fly.

www.dynamac.com/clients/projects/ksc.asp
www.bushnell.com

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blogging comes to the festival

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Sharon Stiteler was given a Peterson Field Guide when she was seven years old and her interest in birding began. Since 1997, she has made it her

goal to get paid to go bird watching. She runs the highest rated birding blog on the Internet, Birdchick.com and has been featured in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, and on NBC Nightly News. Her writing can be found in several publications including *WildBird* magazine, *Outdoor News*, and *Birding Business*. She wrote the books *Disapproving Rabbits* and *City Birds Country Birds*.

Sharon worked with Eagle Optics becoming familiar with all brands of optics. Over time as her career shifted to be more writing focused, Clay Taylor, Naturalist Market Manager for Swarovski Optik North America LTD, helped shape her passion for photographing birds. Clay invited her to become a field tech with Swarovski and Sharon helps staff the Swarovski booth at festivals and trade shows picking up some cool material for her website.



Sharon will present How-To-Blog seminars on Friday, Jan. 23 and Saturday, Jan. 24.

make your own bird feeder

Sponsored by Ace Hardware of Titusville
Ace Hardware is furnishing the hangers and birdseed for this project. You will be able to help your child with placing the hanger in a plastic bottle, filling with birdseed and finding a good spot for hanging in a tree at home. These free supplies will be located in the Exhibit Center.

Jonathan Rosen

keynote

An Urban Birder's Journey to Discovery

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Novelist Jonathan Rosen woke up to birdwatching 15 years ago when, at a lunch in New York City, someone mentioned that warblers would soon be passing

through Central Park. Rosen didn't know what warblers were, but his sudden determination to go out and see them literally changed his life and began a journey that led him into the park, into the swamps of Louisiana and Arkansas looking for the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, into American history, and into the surprisingly urban origins of birdwatching itself. Teddy Roosevelt began life, and John James Audubon ended it, as New Yorkers; their urban connections are intimately bound up with their relationship to the natural world.

Rosen will speak about his book, *The Life of the Skies: Birding at the End of Nature*, and the way birds and birdwatching mediate between the ancient past and the modern present, between the urban and the wild, between science and religious longing, between our conquering urge and our conserving urge. Rosen has written about birdwatching - and other subjects - for the *New York Times*, the *New Yorker*, the *Los Angeles Times* and other publications. Rosen's writing about birds, according to *USA Today*, "will make you peer into the skies with a mixture of longing, sadness and hope."

**Wednesday, Jan. 21, 6:45pm-8:00pm
BCC Community Dining Room; \$15**



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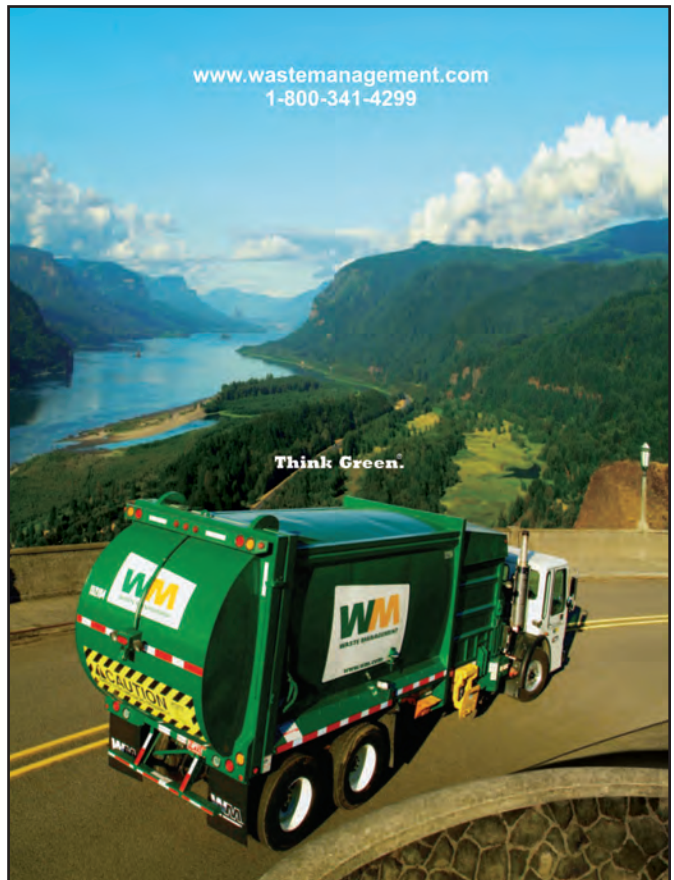


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1-800-341-4299



Christopher Wood keynote

Your Piece of the Puzzle: How eBird Uses Your Observations to Revolutionize Field Ornithology



Chris Wood is one of the leading authorities on bird identification and distribution in North America. He has written and consulted on various books, popular literature and scientific literature on North American birds. Chris works at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, where he runs eBird - an online bird checklist project that gathers millions of bird observations to provide real-time information on bird abundance and distribution at a variety of spatial and temporal scales. Chris was the past photo quiz editor for *Birding* magazine as well as the editor for the online bird quizzes hosted by the American Birding Association. Chris is also a senior leader for the birdwatching tour company WINGS, where he leads tours in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Central America and the West Indies.

Chris' presentation will provide examples



ranging from simple data visualizations and explorations to more complex modeling of

abundance for the conterminous United States. Understanding the distribution and dynamics of bird populations is among the most basic aspects of ornithology. Our foundation for most of this knowledge was gleaned by scientific collections. As ornithology matured, more novel techniques, including banding and satellite transmitters, have greatly increased our knowledge. But these new approaches are often costly and labor intensive. A new transformation is now underway, based on the recognition that there are tens of thousands of birders recording bird notes each day. eBird attempts to harness these data-gathering literally millions of records from thousands of observers throughout the Western Hemisphere. Coupled with new mechanisms for dissemination and analysis of them, a birder's observations now have the power to revolutionize the study of bird distribution, bird population dynamics and bird conservation.

**Thursday, Jan. 22, 6:15pm-7:30pm
BCC Community Dining Room; \$15**

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and Wildlife Festival



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© Eric Blackmore

Debra Shearwater

keynote

Antarctica, South Georgia, the Falkland Islands: Journey of a Lifetime

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Unique and Flavorful
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Debra Shearwater is well known as the founder in 1976 of Shearwater Journeys, a company which offers one-day pelagic trips from California. She has traveled to many of the world's most far-flung corners, including all seven continents. She co-produced a best selling DVD: *Through the Seasons: An Introduction to the Seabirds and Marine Mammals of Monterey Bay*. She has authored several popular articles about seabirds, worked with EarthWatch on a radio tagging project for Blue Whales and with studies of various dolphins. Debra has logged more than five years at sea, visiting such places as the Bering Sea, Russian Far East, Aleutian Islands, Iceland, Spitsbergen, Seychelles, Galapagos, many Caribbean Islands, Panama Canal, the Mediterranean, Tasmania, Macquarie Island, sub-Antarctic Islands of New Zealand, Tristan da Cunha Islands, St. Helena, Ascension Island, Cape Verde Islands, Antarctica, South Georgia, and the Falkland Islands. She worked as staff on 20 expedition cruises. Debra is a past member of the American Birding Association's Board of Directors, a frequent speaker at birding festivals,

a past Institute for Field Ornithology instructor and amateur photographer. She has been honored with several awards for community leadership.

Join Debra for a presentation with images from her voyages to the most remarkable arena of wildlife and scenery. Even if you never venture there yourself - come see Antarctica through her eyes. Few places in the world can match the splendid wilderness of snow, ice and rock, or the spectacular, teeming wildlife of the Antarctic region. The throngs of thousands of King Penguins, the soaring flights of Wandering Albatrosses, the still quietness of tabular ice, sometimes miles long, attract many an adventurer to embark on a voyage like no other. Traveling to the Antarctic region is like visiting no other country. Indeed, many people in Antarctica commonly talk about, "When I return to the world." For many, this is truly the journey of a lifetime, a voyage to the seventh and last continent. Antarctica, the world's largest continent, is almost twice the size of Australia or Europe and most travelers visit only a small portion of the peninsula and its surrounding islands.

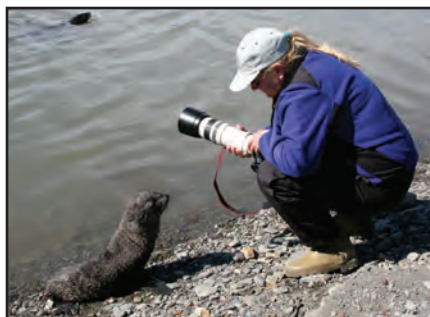
Debra says: "Only two places in the world have affected my very core - East Africa and Antarctica. I love



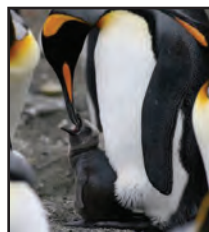
Debra Shearwater. Photo by Don Doolittle

both. When I was in fourth grade, I knew that I would journey to East Africa. After making the trip in 1988, I thought that a trip to East Africa should be a prerequisite for living on Earth for all human beings. I never dreamed of going to Antarctica. Guess I did not dream big enough! After journeying to the Antarctic region, if I could make it my religion, I would."

Friday, Jan. 23, 6:15pm-7:30pm
BCC Auditorium; \$15



Deb and Fur Seal. Photo by Don Doolittle



King Penguin chick being fed by parent, Gold Harbor, South Georgia. All photos by Debra Shearwater unless otherwise specified



Gentoo Penguin adult and chick, South Georgia.



Adelie Penguins, adult and chick on ice, Antarctica.



Iceberg.



Southern Elephant Seal head shot, South Georgia.



Adult Blue-eyed Shags, post breeding bonding, Paulet Island, Antarctica.



Adult Antarctic Tern. Antarctic Peninsula.

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Arthur Morris

keynote

BIRDS AS ART on the Road

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Arthur Morris is a free-lance nature photographer, writer, instructor, and tour leader specializing in birds. Before turning his talents full-time to photography, he taught elementary school in New York City for 23 years. With more than 20,000 of his stunning images published in books, magazines, and calendars all over the globe, Arthur is widely recognized as the world's premier bird photographer. His fitting credit line: BIRDS AS ART. His book, *The Art of Bird Photography* is the classic how-to work on the subject. The all-new follow-up, *The Art of Bird Photography II*, was released on CD in late 2006. More than 140 photo-illustrated articles by and about him have appeared in print. He is a contributing editor for *Nature Photographer* and a *Popular Photography* columnist. Arthur, one of the original "Explorers of Light," has been a Canon contract photographer for the past 10 years and continues in that role today. He was recently named a Fellow by the North American Nature Photographers Association and was a keynote speaker at their 2005 Summit. A popular speaker, he has conducted more than 500 slide programs, seminars, and

Instructional Photo-Tours over the past 18 years. Learn more at: www.birdsasart.com

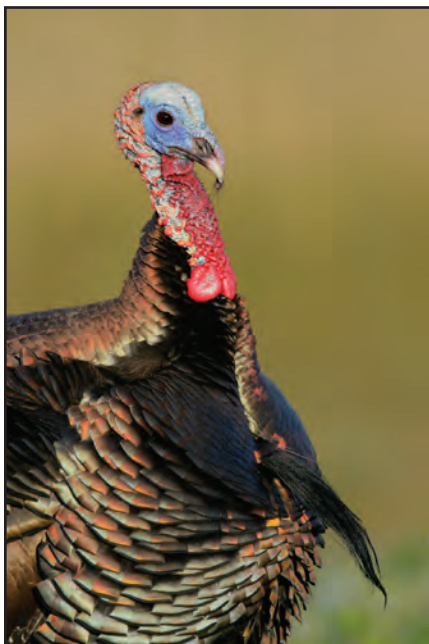
Arthur Morris will present "BIRDS AS ART/On the Road," a slide-illustrated lecture featuring about 400 of Artie's spectacular images. As we travel the world seeing it through his lenses, Artie will be telling us all about the birds and other creatures that he photographs, the lenses and cameras that he uses, and the great folks he has encountered along the way. In addition, we will learn a lot about Artie the person, what drives him, where he's been, and where he is going. As always, the

program will include touching tales and lots of humor. You may not know whether to laugh or cry or cheer for the images...

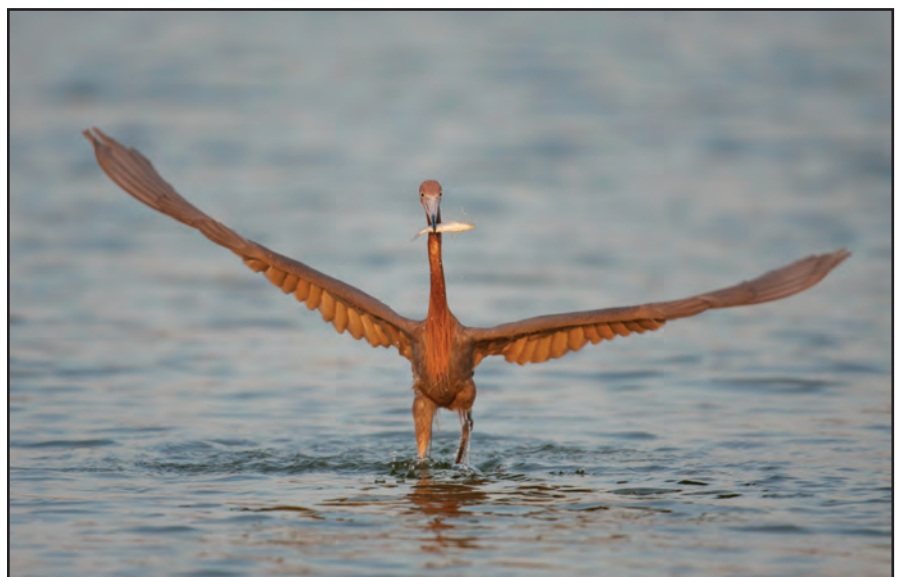
Saturday, Jan. 24, 6:15pm-7:30pm
BCC Auditorium; \$15



Raccoon with hand raised, Ding Darling NWR, Sanibel, FL.
Photo by Arthur Morris



Wild Turkey tom, Indian Lake Estates, FL. Photo by Arthur Morris



Reddish Egret with fish, wings spread, Fort DeSoto Park, FL. Photo by Arthur Morris

Pete Dunne

keynote

Twenty-five Things that Changed Birding

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WILDBIRD

A bimonthly national magazine about backyard and destination birding

When he was seven years old, Pete Dunne was presented with two instruments that would define his life. One was a pair of binoculars; the other a book - a book about birds. One brought intimacy; the other understanding and through them the woodlands behind his suburban home became a portal that opened onto a world of discovery and wonders.

Now 56, vice president of the New Jersey Audubon Society and director of the Society's Cape May Bird Observatory, Pete Dunne uses his talents and energy to make the natural world real for others. Through books like *Pete Dunne on Birding*, *The Wind Masters*, *Hawks in Flight*, and *The Feather Quest*, *Dunne's Essential Field Guide Companion*, regular columns that have appeared in *Birding*, *Winging It*, *Bird Watcher's Digest*, *Wild Bird*, *Birder's World*, *American Birds*, *Living Bird*, the "New Jersey Sunday Section" of the *New York Times* and frequent speaking engagements in the United States, Canada and abroad, he weaves information, insight and even fantasy into a net that captures minds and hearts.

A field birder with an international reputation, he has served on the board of the American Birding Association and the Roger Tory Peterson Institute. An authority on the optical needs of birders, he has served as a marketing and product advisor to Nikon, Zeiss, Leica, Leupold, Swarovski Optik, Swift Instruments, Bausch and Lomb, and other companies.

As involved as he is with New Jersey Audubon's outreach and programming, Dunne makes time to lead a bird walk every Monday morning and, in season, to assist with the Cape May Hawk Count - the count he established 31 years ago. "It keeps me grounded in what is real and what is important," he explains.

Pete is also the founder and a 24-year veteran of the World Series of Birding. Called "The World's Greatest Natural Treasure Hunt," the annual event attracts over 100 teams and raises over half a million dollars for conservation every year. In recognition of this event, and for "lifetime achievement" promoting the cause of birding, Dunne was awarded the American Birding Association's Roger Tory Peterson Award in 2001. Other awards include the EPA Environmental Protection Award, Governor's Conference on Tourism Environmental Award and the 1991 Winchester Good News Hunting Writer's Contest first prize.

When not working, writing, traveling, or birding, Dunne spends his time with wife Linda and the couple's volatile pair of Labrador retrievers, Max and Raven, in the riverside village of Mauricetown

Pete's presentation, "Twenty-five Things That Changed Birding," is a reflection upon some great and small institutions, ideas, products, initiatives, and byproducts that changed the face of birding, making it the avocation it is today. Some are obvious. Some will surprise you. All will make you think and ponder about the past, present and future of this hobby enjoyed by millions.

Sunday, Jan. 25, 3:00pm-4:15pm

Sunday Social, Fox Lake Park Pavilion

Social & Keynote \$25; Keynote only \$15



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WILDBIRD

field trips

Festival field trips are designed to showcase the best regional wildlife sites as well as the exceptional research and preservation work being conducted in this area. 1) Unless otherwise noted, all trips depart from the traffic circle in front of the Gymnasium at Brevard Community College, Titusville Campus. Field trips begin with presentations and trip leader interactions on the bus, en route to the site locations. 2) Due to the importance of arriving at designated sites by certain times, vehicles will leave promptly when indicated. Please arrive 15 minutes early. 3) Please note that in order to keep the Festival as cost efficient as possible for our guests, some of the field trips and workshops have been changed to car pools instead of utilizing hired transportation services. 4) NOTE: Central Florida is very "birdy" and many will be seen en route. Stay alert and be prepared to look quickly when someone calls out a passing bird.

I. Specialty Tours

Ancient & Modern Mariners of the Deep

Jan. 24, 8:00am-5:00pm: Limited to 27 registrants; \$60

Michael Brothers (Marine Science Center) and David Hartgrove

Note: Please bring money for lunch at the beautiful Inlet Harbor Seafood Restaurant.

www.ccturtle.org

www.marinesciencecenter.com

www.ponceinlet.org

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An Environmental Odyssey

Join our leaders for a look at some of the world's oldest and more recent mariners. Inhabiting earth for 150 million years, sea turtles have long intrigued people, figuring prominently in the mythology and folklore of many cultures. This fascinating trip will visit two sites and include some birding time also. The Marine Science Center is a rehabilitation center for injured marine turtles as well as an important environmental education center. It includes turtle tanks; a 5,000-gallon artificial reef and aquarium; manatee, whale and fish exhibits; a wet/dry lab; nature trails through maritime hammock and boardwalks over coastal dunes; as well as a brand new seabird rehabilitation sanctuary. Completed in 1887, the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse is a National Historic Landmark. At 175 feet, it is the second tallest lighthouse in the U.S. and the tallest open to the public. A climb to the top reveals a breathtaking view of inlet, estuary and beaches. With a glorious beacon shining over 16 nautical miles, maritime museum and lens restoration shop featuring the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse first-order Fresnel lens, Ponce Inlet Lighthouse offers a tremendous opportunity to learn of our great maritime heritage.

Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary Walk

Jan. 22, 9:00am-12:00pm: Limited to 30 registrants; Free

Jay Barnhart, Jim Stahl and Dean Pettit

Directions: From I-95 take SR50 Exit 215 east 3 miles. Turn right on Key Largo Dr., go 0.4 miles and turn right on Karen Dr. Go less than 0.1 mile, turn right and go to the

end of Melissa Dr. Enter on foot. From US1 go west 0.7 miles on SR50. Turn left on Key Largo Dr. - follow directions above.

Note: Meet at the entrance to the Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary.

www.enchantedforestfriends.org

www.eelbrevard.com

www.fnps.org

This Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands property consists mostly of scrubby flatwoods and a large depression marsh. It is adjacent to the Titusville Wellfield, which also supports scrub, extending the protection area and enhancing the Sanctuary. Protected plant and wildlife species documented on site include Florida Scrub-Jay, indigo snake, gopher tortoise and Dicerandra thincicola, a rare scrub mint known only to occur in the northern region of Brevard County. Your guides for this hike will be avid wild mushroom hobbyist Jay Barnhart; retired biologist Jim Stahl and Dean Pettit, Chair of the Titusville Environmental Commission, who spearheaded the establishment of a multi-use recreational trail through the classic scrub habitat at the Titusville Wellfield.

Forest Biodiversity

Jan. 24, 2:45pm-4:30pm; Limited to 40 registrants; Free

Martha Pessaro with additional Certified Enchanted Forest Sanctuary Guides

Directions: Drive south on US1 through Titusville. About a mile south of town, drive west on SR405. The entrance is on the right, about 1/2 mile west of the US1 interchange.

Note: Meet at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary.

www.enchantedforestfriends.org

www.eelbrevard.com

Explore three unique ecosystems. Learn about the plant and animals that live in the Sanctuary and thus contribute to the biodiversity of the area. The adaptations of these plants and animals will also be discussed and compared. How do animals that live in the hot, sunny xeric oak scrub ecosystem find water? How do plants that survive in the flooded hydric hammock ecosystem adapt to their surroundings? Join us for this guided hike to find out. Interactive educational activities will be conducted along the trail with the entire group.

Historical Sites of Canaveral Nat'l Seashore

Jan. 23, 8:30am-5:00pm: Limited to 26 registrants; \$50

John Stiner (National Park Service), Rachel Wentz (Florida Public Archaeology Network) and David Hartgrove

Note: Please bring money for lunch at J.B.'s Fish Camp on Mosquito Lagoon.

www.nps.gov/cana

www.flpublicarchaeology.org

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Quality Teaching & Lifelong Learning for All of Brevard

When European explorers touched the shores of the New World in the late 15th century, the northern areas of the Space Coast had been inhabited for thousands of years by indigenous peoples who were called the Timucua. They left behind a wealth of archaeological sites and resources, many of which have yet to be discovered. Among these resources are some of the largest and most extensive prehistoric shell mounds in the nation. Many were so high they were used as major navigational landmarks during early colonial times. More than 100 Pre-Columbian mounds lie within the boundaries of Canaveral National Seashore. This field trip visits three of them and the El Dora Statehouse. One of the oldest archaeological sites in Florida, Seminole Rest is a 4,000-year-old Timucuan shell midden located on the Oak Hill waterfront. Named for its resemblance to a giant turtle and used as a navigational aid for centuries, Turtle Mound shows up on Spanish maps as early as the 16th century. A climb to the top reveals a scenic panorama of ocean, estuary and beaches. Castle Windy is a smaller mound that lies in the shadows of thick coastal maritime hammock right along the edge of Mosquito Lagoon. Birding can sometimes be quite good along the trails to and on the mounds as middens provide resting space and feeding areas for Neotropical migratory songbirds. The El Dora Statehouse is a restored 1800s pioneer home that stands as the last remnant of an old Florida waterway community. This is a great trip combining historical sights and coastal birds.

*John Stiner's services are provided at no charge by the National Park Service.

field trips

Pelagic Birding Offshore New Smyrna Beach

Jan. 26, 6:00am-5:00pm: Limited to 105 registrants; \$115

Debra Shearwater and Jim Danzenbaker with Jessie Barry, Wes Biggs, Jeff Bouton, Mike Brothers, Cameron Cox, Tom Dunkerton, Pete Dunne, Mike Freiberg, Murray Gardler, Dave Goodwin, Jeff Gordon, David Hartgrove, Paul Lehman, David Simpson, Sharon Stiteler, Bill Thompson III, Bob Wallace, and Chris Wood

Directions: From I-95, get off at Exit #249 and go east approximately 3 miles. You will pass WalMart and Walgreens on the right. Get into the left lane and look for K-Mart on right and a sign that says Business 44 Left. Take this left fork and follow the road over the railroad tracks and through the traffic lights (Dixie Fwy). The road becomes Canal St. and ends at the water. Turn left onto Riverside Dr. and continue north on Riverside Dr. until you reach the Sea Harvest Restaurant/Pastime Princess on the right. From US1, go east on Canal St. to the dead end at the water. Turn left on Riverside Dr. and go to Sea Harvest Restaurant/Pastime Princess on the right. Drive time from Titusville is about 45 minutes. Pastime Princess, 800-881-2628 or 386-428-0201.

Note: Meet at Sea Harvest Restaurant at 5:45am.

Note: Back-up day - Jan. 27, 2009.

Note: There will be food available for purchase on the boat or you can bring a small cooler with your lunch. Be sure to bring full rain gear and wear waterproof shoes as it is likely that the wind will blow and spray will fly!

www.dixiecrossroads.com
www.pastimeprincess.com

Sponsored by



Pelagic birds are species that are usually not seen close to land. Long-time birders know that a pelagic trip can be as exciting as birding can get, and offshore pelagic trips in Florida offer a new frontier. Join us onboard the 100-foot fishing boat, Pastime Princess, as we steam out of Ponce Inlet to look for some of the most sought-after species in Florida. Our destination is an undersea formation known as "The Steeples," a productive location of underwater cliffs and seamounts that cause upwellings and current edges, especially along the western edge of the Gulf Stream. Among our targets will be Northern Gannet; Northern Fulmar; Greater, Manx, Cory's and Audubon's Shearwater; Pomarine, Parasitic and Long-tailed Jaeger; Wilson's, Leach's and Band-rumped Storm

Petrel; Sooty and Bridled Tern; Black-legged Kittiwake; Masked and Brown Booby; Red and Red-necked Phalarope; and Sabine's Gull. There is even a chance at this time of the year that we might find a Razorbill or Dovekie, exceedingly rare birds for anyone in Florida! Bottlenosed and spotted dolphins and loggerhead sea turtles are commonly seen. The endangered northern right whale is a possibility as the destination is within their wintertime calving grounds. Seabirds from the Mary Keller Seabird Rehabilitation Sanctuary at the Marine Science Center will be released if any are ready at the time of the trip.

Plants & Their Uses through History from Ancient to Modern Times

Jan 24, 12:00pm-2:30pm: Limited to 20 registrants; Free

Jay Barnhart and Jim Stahl

Directions: Drive south on US1 through Titusville. About a mile south of town, drive west on SR405. The entrance is on the right, about 1/2 mile west of the US1 interchange.

Note: Meet at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary.

www.enchantedforestfriends.org
<http://efs.eelbrevard.com>

Titusville's 470-acre Enchanted Forest Sanctuary is the flagship property for the Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program. Preserving a significant sample of the original natural communities, the incredible diversity found throughout the Sanctuary's varied habitats include xeric oak scrub, mature hardwood forests, wetlands and pine flatwoods. In one of the few places in Central Florida where subtropical and temperate

plant species are found together, visitors can also see the exposed layers of coquina rock that form the Atlantic Coastal Ridge.

Learn to identify many of the various native plants found in the Sanctuary as well as practical information regarding their values and uses through the centuries. Your leisurely guided walk will begin on the well-named Biodiversity Loop Trail, which passes through dry scrub areas as it gently ascends to the sandy, higher elevation known as the Atlantic Coastal Ridge. From there it descends to humid wetlands and across a boardwalk that passes over a swampy ecosystem where the black topsoil is known as Tomoka muck. This will bring us to the beginning of the Magnolia Loop Trail, where we will continue under a dense mature forest canopy of impressively large southern magnolias and stately old oak trees. Traveling these diverse ecosystems will hopefully introduce you to many of our treasured Enchanted Forest Sanctuary plants as we provide some interesting stories associated with them. Your interpreters for this session will be trail guide volunteer and avid mushroom hobbyist Jay Barnhart and retired land manager and biologist Jim Stahl.

Wetlands Management & Alteration: Northern Indian River Lagoon

Jan. 24, 8:00am-10:30am; Limited to 5 cars or 25 registrants; \$15

Dr. Eric Stolen

Note: Meet in front of the Gymnasium at 7:45am in order to make carpool arrangements.

www.fws.gov/merrittisland/Maps-DrivesTrails/pages/BlackPointWildlifeDrive.html
www.nbbd.com/godo/minwr/BlackPoint/index.html

The northern Indian River estuary is a complex and biologically rich ecosystem that is home to a staggering 3000+ species of plants and animals. Over the past half-century, humans have drastically altered the wetland habitat within this estuary. Some species have benefited from these changes while others have suffered. Efforts currently underway are attempting to restore much of the wetland habitat in the northern IRL to its original state. The affects of restoration on waterbird populations here remains to be seen. This field trip will traverse the famed Black Point Wildlife Drive, to explore the history and current practice of structural marsh management on the Merritt Island NWR. We will also examine a variety of waterbird habitats and see examples of restoration in action. Throughout the journey, we will observe and identify the abundant waterbirds, salt marsh plants, and other salt marsh and estuarine organisms we encounter.



What a Find (Scrub-Jays at SCBW08). Photo by Joel Reynolds

Wildflowers, Plants, & Other Things: Seminar & Field Trip in the North Brevard Area

Jan. 21, 8:00am-3:30pm: Rm. 119 first, then carpool field trip; Limited to 20 registrants; Free

Jan. 23, 8:00am-3:30pm: Rm. 123 first, then carpool field trip; Free

Jim Stahl and Jay Barnhart

Note: We will carpool from the Gymnasium, and a moderate amount of walking on dry trails will be required. Please bring money for lunch at one of Titusville's fine historic downtown dining establishments.

www.floridawildflowers.com

www.fnps.org

Florida was named for the abundance of flowering plants that early explorers found here. Today the many habitats of Florida (hardwood and palm hammocks, deciduous forest, pine flatwoods, scrub, sand hills, prairie, coastal dunes, roadsides, marsh, swamp and riverine) support over 4000 species of native and naturalized wildflowers plus numerous exotics from the horticultural trade. This program will present slides of wildflowers, trees, shrubs, ferns and other plants with comments on their natural history, uses by people and wildlife, home landscaping values and occurrences. The presentation will highlight plants that can be seen during the festival week. Information on books for identifying and locations for finding Florida plants will be included.

The field trip will present diverse habitats in and around Brevard County including mature deciduous/semi-tropical forests, pine flatwoods, oak-palm hammocks, cypress swamps, freshwater marshes, brackish lagoons, lakes, scrub, sedge meadows, coastal dunes and ruderal (disturbed). With so many habitats, the region supports numerous plant species - majestic trees, shrubs, beautiful wildflowers, grasses and sedges and ferns. On this trip we will observe and discuss many species of plants and their habitats, plus anything else (birds, reptiles, butterflies and other insects) that we might come across. The sites we will visit will be selected during scouting trips just prior to the field trip so that areas with the best blooming plants will be on the itinerary.

Wild Side of the Kennedy Space Center

Jan. 25, 9:30am-12:00pm: Limited to 45 registrants; \$40

Carlton Hall (Dynamac), Cameron Cox (Nikon), and Sarah Linney (FNAI)

Note: Pre-registration is a must! For the purpose of security at the Kennedy Space Center, we are restricted to offering this

trip to U.S. citizens only.

Note: Departs ONLY from KSC Visitors Complex.

www.KennedySpaceCenter.com

www.dynamac.com/clients/projects/ksc.asp



Join Dynamac Manager of Ecological Programs, Carlton Hall, for a bus journey through the working launch complex of the Kennedy Space Center (KSC) and into the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. Learn how KSC, working with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, sets the standard for how nature and technology can co-exist peacefully and benefit one another. Carlton will talk about the ongoing ecological studies at KSC related to such areas as fire ecology, scrub habitat management, wetlands management and potential impacts of NASA operations including launch effects. Some endangered wildlife you might see include the Florida manatee, Wood Stork, and the Florida Scrub-Jay. The tour will travel along parts of the nation's most biologically diverse estuary, the Indian River Lagoon and Banana River, through Florida scrub, along the coastal strand and beach, and past many of NASA's facilities.

II. Birding & Wildlife Tours

Afternoon Hayride

Jan 24, 2:00pm-5:30pm: Limited to 20 registrants; \$20

Dorn Whitmore and Mike Legare (USFWS)

Note: Meet at the entrance to the Black Point Wildlife Dr. on MINWR.

Note: Park on the grass along the road - make sure your car is off the road. The hay wagon will return to the departure point. Bring water and snacks and dress warmly!

www.fws.gov/merrittisland



Watch the afternoon bird show from an ideal vantage point! Join Merritt Island NWR Chief Ranger Dorn Whitmore and Refuge Lead Biologist Mike Legare for a slow ride through a Florida paradise on this hayride around Blackpoint Wildlife Drive. There is no better way to view so many birds!

Black Rails and the St Johns National Wildlife Refuge

Jan. 21, 22, & 23, 4:00pm-7:00pm: Limited to 20 registrants; \$25

Mike Legare and Dorn Whitmore (USFWS); Jan. 21 & 22 with Adam Kent (FWC); Jan. 23 with Simon Thompson (Ventures Birding Tours)

Note: Meet in front of the Gymnasium at 3:45pm to compress into a car pool that utilizes as few cars as possible.

Note: Dress warmly - it will be chilly on the marsh. Wear old shoes and bring water.

www.fws.gov/merrittisland



Join Mike Legare, US Fish and Wildlife Service Lead Biologist at Merritt Island NWR, on a sunset hayride through the pristine salt marsh habitat of the restricted St. Johns National Wildlife Refuge. At various stops through the marsh, Mike will talk about Black Rails, their secretive habits, salt marsh habitat and the research he conducted on these elusive marsh birds at this site. The marshes of the St Johns River west and northwest of Titusville are the only marshes along the St Johns where Black Rails are found within the river's floodplains. That's because saline water seeps to the surface from a layer of salty water that lies above the Florida aquifer in this area, creating marine-type habitats in the midst of a huge freshwater floodplain. These biological islands are home to the same vegetation that you will find in the salt marshes of the Merritt Island NWR. As the sun sets on the marsh horizon, Mike will stop at different places and play tapes to try to entice Black Rails to call.

Blue Heron Wetlands & Canaveral Marshes Conservation Area

Jan. 23 & 25, 6:30am-12:00pm: Limited to 26 registrants; \$20

Matt & Lora Heyden; Jan. 23 with Mike Freiberg (Nikon) and Chris Wood, (WINGS); Jan. 25 with Dave Goodwin and Wes Biggs (Florida Nature Tours)

Note: Meet at south side of Cracker Barrel parking lot at 6:30am, I-95 Exit 215.

Note: Birders may get their feet damp on the moderate hike at Canaveral Marshes.

www.outintheboonies.com/Canaveral_Marshes

www.nbbd.com/godo/SJRWMD-RecreationAreas.html

www.abouttitusville.com/outdoors/hiking/



Explore the engineered wetlands of Blue Heron, an outstanding birding site and magnet for wildlife, and the neighboring fresh-water floodplain habitats of Canaveral Marshes. American Bittern, Purple Gallinule,

audubon center for birds of prey

Take a special "Behind the Scenes" tour of Florida Audubon's Center for Birds of Prey (ACBOP). The largest raptor rehabilitation facility east of the Mississippi, the ACBOP specializes in the rescue, medical care, rehabilitation and release of more than 600 sick, injured and orphaned raptors each year, including Bald Eagles, hawks, owls, kites, falcons and vultures. Recognized nationally as one of the premier facilities for Bald Eagle care, the center has rehabilitated and released 289 eagles back to the Florida skies since opening in 1979. Many of the non-releasable birds are housed at the center in large aviaries or in the open-air "bird garden," where the glove-trained education birds spend their days. This state-of-the-art facility includes a lab and x-ray equipment to aid in diagnosing and treating patients, a clinic equipped with indoor caging to accommodate raptors of all sizes, rehabilitation mews and three flight barns. In addition, there is extensive native landscaping and a butterfly garden to enjoy. Education is an important mission of all Audubon Centers. Take advantage of an opportunity to get up close and personal with our nation's symbol, the majestic Bald Eagle, or to marvel at the remarkable ears of a Barred Owl.

You must drive yourself. The Center is near Orlando at 1101 Audubon Way in Maitland. Call 407-644-0190 for directions, and to schedule your "Behind the Scenes" tour.

www.audubonofflorida.org/who_centers_CBOP.html

preservation as an art form

The North Brevard Heritage Foundation presents the 'Preservation as an Art Form' exhibition in the Brevard Community College Titusville campus library beginning Monday, January 18, 2009. The exhibition will feature art, artifacts, photographs, and other materials that focus on, and creatively interpret, the Foundation's preservation efforts at the historic Pritchard House and Brevard Heritage Park. Objects found at structures such as the 1891 Clifton Schoolhouse, the Hutcheson Barn, and the Mims Train Depot will be incorporated into the exhibit. While celebrating local history, the 'Preservation as an Art Form' exhibition will also demonstrate the environmentally friendly theme that 'Preservation is Green.' The exhibition will be on display during the 2009 Birding and Wildlife Festival, and everyone is invited to come to the BCC Titusville campus library to see it.

Hairy Woodpecker, Limpkin, Sandhill Crane, Roseate Spoonbill, Black-crowned and Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, Black-necked Stilt, Gadwall, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Bobolink and Gull-billed Tern are just a few of well over 100 bird species sighted at Blue Heron. The upland hammocks and wetlands of Canaveral Marshes will be visited. Volunteers who conducted monthly surveys in 2001 and 2002 recorded approximately 154 species of birds on this property, including American Bittern, Fulvous Whistling-Duck, Green-winged and Blue-winged Teal, Mottled Duck, Northern Pintail, Northern Shoveler, Long-billed Dowitcher, Stilt Sandpiper, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Crested Caracara, King and Virginia Rail, American Pipit, Wilson's Snipe, Sedge and Marsh Wren and Peregrine Falcon. Birders may get their feet damp on the moderate hike at Canaveral Marshes and see alligators at Blue Heron.

Central Florida Specialties

Jan. 23 & 24, 5:00am-5:00pm: Limited to 42 registrants; \$70

Wes Biggs (Florida Nature Tours) and Dave Goodwin; Jan. 23 with Roy Book; Jan. 24 with Bruce Anderson

Note: Price includes lunch at Forever Florida wilderness preserve.

www.nikonsportoptics.com
www.foreverflorida.com

Sponsored by



The extensive wetland and prairie complexes of Central Florida host a variety of wading and waterbirds including almost all of Florida's herons and egrets, Least and American Bittern, Glossy and White Ibis, Wood Stork, Limpkin, King Rail, Anhinga, grebes, shorebirds and various ducks as well as a unique suite of birds that includes the Sandhill Crane, Crested Caracara, Burrowing Owl, Mottled Duck and Grasshopper Sparrow. This tour will start at Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area in the early morning hours to try to catch a glimpse of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers. Other pineland species expected at Three Lakes include Bachman's Sparrow, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Pine Warbler and Eastern Bluebird. White-tailed Kite is a possibility. Next stop is Overstreet Landing on Lake Kissimmee to look for Whooping Cranes that have been reintroduced to the Kissimmee River prairie. Overstreet Landing is a good place to look for Snail Kite, Bald Eagle and various raptors, Mottled Duck and other waterfowl, Long-billed Dowitcher, Purple Gallinule and Limpkin.

Crested Caracara, Eastern Bluebird, American Kestrel, Sandhill Crane and Wild Turkey may be seen along the road. After lunch, a trip to Lake Lizzie Park will hopefully produce Red-headed Woodpecker and Florida Scrub-Jay. If time allows, other sites to be visited include Whaley's Landing, Cypress Lake and Lake Kissimmee.

Hal Scott Regional Preserve

Jan. 25, 5:45am-12:00pm: Limited to 25 registrants; \$40

Lorne Malo (SJRWMD), Jeff Bouton (Leica Sport Optics), and Sam Fried (Flights of Fancy Adventures)

Note: This is a 4-mile walk, some of which may pass through mud and standing water. Dress accordingly.

www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wetlands/docs/delineation/halscott.pdf
<http://nbbd.com/godo/SJRWMD-RecreationAreas.html>

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Join St. Johns River Water Management District Biologist Lorne Malo in pursuit of some of east Orange County's resident birds and pineland specialties.

The vast expanse of pine flatwoods and open prairies of Hal Scott Preserve straddles the Econlockhatchee River in eastern Orange County, protecting the resources of the river. The trip leaves early to start at an active Red-cockaded Woodpecker colony as the birds awaken from their roost. From there the group will explore pine flatwoods and the Econlockhatchee River swamp in search of other common resident species, including Eastern Bluebird, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Bachman's Sparrow, Wood Duck, Sandhill Crane, Bald Eagle and Barred Owl. With some luck, visitors may find Wild Turkey, Whip-poor-will, Red-headed, Hairy and Pileated Woodpecker (8 woodpecker species on 2003 festival field trip), Hermit Thrush, Orange-crowned Warbler, Sedge and Marsh Wren, King Rail, and Cooper's and Sharp-shinned Hawk. The second Florida state record Hammond's Flycatcher was found here during the 2007 Festival. In addition to many bird species, alligators, deer, gopher tortoises, otters, bobcats and indigo snakes may also be found.

Joshua Creek Tract

Jan. 23 & 24, 6:00am-12:00pm: Limited to 21 registrants; \$20

Lorne Malo (SJRWMD); Jan. 23 with Maria Zondervan (SJRWMD) and Bruce Anderson; Jan. 24 with Kevin Karlson (Kevin T. Karlson Photography) and Tom Dunkerton (Nikon)

Note: Meet in front of the Gymnatorium at 5:45am. This is a primitive site. This carpool adventure will involve driving to reach various habitats and then some moderate walking. Be aware that you may drive through underbrush that could scratch your vehicle. Roads at the site selected for this field trip will be passable without 4-wheel drive.

Note: Some of the areas may be wet and muddy so be sure to dress appropriately.

This is a **very rare** opportunity to explore the Joshua Creek Tract - one of the latest land acquisitions to the Little Big Econ State Forest. Not yet open to the general public, this 4569-acre property lies almost entirely in Orange County adjoining Orlando Wetlands Park to the south and Seminole Ranch Conservation Area to the east. It is one of three large tracts that are part of the Econ - St. Johns Ecosystem Florida Forever project. The site is drained by four creeks and contains riverine swamp, pine flatwoods, sandhill, oak scrub and pasture. Nesting Bald Eagles, Red-headed Woodpeckers, Pileated Woodpeckers, Brown-headed Nuthatches, Eastern Bluebirds, Bachman's Sparrows, and Sandhill Cranes are resident here. Many of the usual over-wintering passerines can be found here in January. Unusual species like the Short-tailed hawk and Yellow Rail have also been recorded on this property.

Lake Monroe Conservation Area

Jan. 21, 6:00am-12:00pm: Limited to 26 registrants; \$20

Lorne Malo (SJRWMD), Maria Zondervan (SJRWMD), Luis Segura (Trogon Tours) and Cameron Cox (Nikon)

Note: Meet in front of the Gymnatorium at 5:45am in order to make car pool arrangements.

Note: This is a 4-mile walk, some of which may pass through mud and standing water. Dress accordingly.

www.sjrwmd.com/recreationguide/sc05/

<http://nbbd.com/godo/SJRWMD-RecreationAreas.html>

St. Johns River Water Management District Biologist Lorne Malo will lead this walk into the Lake Monroe CA. This conservation area contains 90% of the floodplain of Lake Monroe and covers more than three miles of St. Johns River and Lake Monroe shoreline. Wetlands make up 94% of the conservation area. The fields, marshes, hammocks, flatwoods and scrub at this site are good for marsh birds, warblers and sparrows. Numerous wading birds and raptors are expected along with deer and alligators. Wild Turkey, Florida Scrub-Jay, Bachman's, Vesper and Grasshopper Sparrows, American Bittern, Wood Stork, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Bald Eagle, Short-tailed Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Crested

Caracara, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, Virginia Rail, Limpkin and Sandhill Crane have all been recorded here.

Little-Big Econ State Forest

Jan. 22, 6:00am-12:00pm: Limited to 26 registrants; \$20

Lorne Malo (SJRWD), Carlos Bethancourt (Canopy Tower), David Hartgrove, Kevin Karlson (Kevin T. Karlson Photography)

Note: Meet in front of the Gymnatorium at 5:45am in order to make car pool arrangements.

Note: Walking distance for combined sites will be about 5 miles, some of which may be through mud and standing water.

www.fl-dof.com/state_forests/little_big_econ.html

www.fl-dof.com/state_forests/little_snowhill_trailmap.html

<http://nbbd.com/godo/SJRWMD-RecreationAreas.html>

St. Johns River Water Management District Biologist Lorne Malo will lead this trip to visit two sections of the state forest, starting at the Barr Street entrance of the Demetree Tract with a hike through open fields and riparian woodlands to the Econlockhatchee River. Here Sedge Wren, Hermit Thrush, Red-headed and Pileated Woodpecker, Blue-headed Vireo, Northern Parula, Orange-crowned and Black-throated Green Warbler, and Northern Oriole might be found. Next we'll visit the Kilbee Tract portion of the State Forest along the St. Johns River in search of raptors, marsh birds, shorebirds, waterfowl and songbirds. Approximately 160 species of birds have been recorded at the Little-Big Econ State Forest.

Marl Bed Flats, Lake Jessup Conservation Area

Jan. 21, 22 & 25, 6:00am-12:00pm: Limited to 26 registrants; \$20

Tom Dunkerton (Nikon); Jan. 21 with Sam Fried (Flights of Fancy Adventures), David Hartgrove, and Debra Shearwater (Shearwater Journeys); Jan. 22 with Jessie Barry (Cornell Lab of Ornithology), Xavier Munoz (Neblina Forest), and Cameron Cox (Nikon); Jan. 25 with Pete Dunne (Cape May Observatory), Mike Freiberg (Nikon), and Kevin Karlson (Kevin T. Karlson Photography)

Note: Meet in front of the Gymnatorium at 5:45am in order to make car pool arrangements.

Note: Be prepared to walk 2 to 3 miles, some of which may be through mud and standing water.

<http://nbbd.com/godo/SJRWMD-RecreationAreas.html>

Come join us for a hike that is sure to hold surprises. The Marl Bed Tract is a large



Snowy Egret. Photo by Joanne Williams

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wildlife.

The hammock is home to Great Horned and Barred Owls as well as wintering migrants such as Yellow-throated, Black and White, Orange-crowned warblers, Northern Parula, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Blue-headed Vireos, Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers and more. As we exit the hammock, we will walk out onto the floodplains of Lake Jessup. The marsh vegetation and surrounding pastures can be filled with many surprises like Henslow's and LeConte's and Lincoln Sparrows, a male Vermillion Flycatcher, and American Woodcock. Countless Eastern Meadowlarks in addition to Savannah Sparrows, American Pipits, Least Sandpipers and other shorebirds can be encountered here while Bald Eagles, Northern Harriers, Peregrine Falcons and other raptors patrol the skies above us.

This is sure to be an adventurous morning hike for any skill level of birding. It can sometimes be a bit wet in some of these areas so rubber boots are recommended as well as insect repellent. It is also a fairly lengthy walk so water and trail snacks are advised.

field trips

North Brevard Hotspots

Jan. 21, 22, 23, & 24, 6:30am-12:00pm:
Limited to 25 registrants; \$40

Doug Stuckey; Jan. 21 with Carlos Bethancourt (Canopy Tower), Bruce Anderson, Susan Epps; Jan. 22 with Bruce Anderson, Susan Epps, Luis Segura (Trogon Tours); Jan. 23 with Jason Frederick, Adam Kent and Jeff Gordon (Leica); Jan. 24 with Roy Book, Jonathan Rosen and Chris Wood (WINGS)

Note: This field trip requires some moderate walking.

<http://canopytower.com/>

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Northern Brevard County has much to offer in well-known birding sites like Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge and Canaveral National Seashore. We also have productive, yet lesser-known areas - Seminole Ranch, Hatbill Park, Buck Lake, Salt Lake, Scottsmoor Landing, the F.I.N.D. Site, Hammock Road and others. Along with the usual wading birds, shorebirds and waterfowl, various woodpeckers, Painted Bunting, Loggerhead Shrike, Limpkin, Roseate

Spoonbill, Reddish Egret, Bald Eagle, Wood Stork, Florida Scrub-Jay and Sandhill Crane are possible. Hop on the bus for a trip through the pines and palmettos of North Brevard's scrublands and wetlands to learn about some of our favorite, not so famous hotspots. This trip had the highest species count of any festival field trip last year with 112 species accumulated on the three field trips. Specific sites to be visited will be determined during pre-festival scouting trips.

South Brevard County

Jan. 21 & 22, 4:30am-4:30pm: Limited to 19 registrants; \$65

David Simpson (Birding with David Simpson); Jan. 21 with Murray Gardler and Paul Lehman (WINGS); Jan. 22 with Jason Frederick and Sharon Stiteler (BirdChick Blog)

Note: Please bring money for lunch, served at Marsh Landing Restaurant located in the historic Fellsmere Estates Building.

Note: At the Buffer Preserve, participants will sit on hay bales in the back of pick-up trucks. Some walking on dikes may be required for moderate distances.

www.nikonspportoptics.com

This field trip will leave early in order to observe Red-cockaded Woodpeckers leaving their nest cavities at sunrise. First stop is

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the St. Sebastian River Buffer Preserve State Park. This 22,000-acre site serves as a home to many of the sought-after pinewoods specialties. Six families of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers and more than thirty families of Florida Scrub-Jay call the preserve their home. Bachman's Sparrows are abundant, though difficult to see in the winter months. Brown-headed Nuthatches are often encountered among the mixed-species feeding flocks. There will be a truck ride through the interior of the preserve where David will give you the inside scoop on how the preserve is managed for these special birds and their habitats. After lunch we will visit the T. M. Goodwin Waterfowl Management Area, which features ten impoundments managed intensively for waterfowl, wading birds and shorebirds and a semi-permanent flooded marsh. An observation tower overlooking Lake Goodwin offers unobstructed views of surrounding marshlands. Black-bellied and Fulvous Whistling-Ducks, Purple Gallinule and Limpkin are often seen here.



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Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area

Jan. 21, 22, & 23, 6:00am-12:00pm,
Limited to 26 registrants; \$40

Casey Dorsch (FWCC) and Jim Blush (FWCC); Jan. 21 with Roy Book, Xavier Munoz (Neblina Forest); Jan. 22 with Roy Book, Mark Kiser (GFBT), Jan. 23 with Mark Kiser (GFBT) and Selena Kiser (GFBT)

www.myfwc.com/recreation/tosohatchee

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Shaped by alternating cycles of fire and flood, Tosohatchee WMA is a mosaic of marshes, swamps, pine flatwoods and oak hammocks. Deep inside the reserve, Jim Creek flows through some of the last remaining virgin cypress swamps in all of Florida. Bordering 19 miles of the St. Johns River in eastern Orange County, the reserve is named for Tootosahatchee Creek, which flows through its northern portion. The abundance of wildlife must have been attractive to the Native Americans who lived at Tosohatchee long before the arrival of the first Europeans. Mounds within the reserve indicate that Timucuan Indians occupied

the area for several centuries. Seminoles lived here, too, fiercely defying the U.S. government's attempts to eradicate them. The Tosohatchee marshes are feeding areas for wading birds and, during winter months, host large numbers of migrating waterfowl. Forested uplands support deer, bobcats, gray foxes, wild turkeys, woodpeckers, hawks, owls and songbirds. Some of the threatened and endangered species found at the reserve include Bald Eagle, Wood Stork, eastern indigo snake, gopher tortoise and, on rare occasions, the Florida panther. Birds of interest include Bachman's Sparrow, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Eastern Bluebird, Red-headed Woodpecker and Florida Sandhill Crane. Tosohatchee is a great site for those interested in butterflies and dragonflies, especially in late summer and fall when wildflowers and native grasses are in full bloom.

Viera Wetlands: Ritch Grisson Memorial Wetlands at Viera

Jan. 21, 23, 24, & 25, 6:00am-12:00pm:
Limited to 26 registrants; \$40

Dave Freeland; Jan. 21 with Jeff Gordon (Leica), and Sharon Stiteler (BirdChick Blog); Jan. 23 with Jonathan Rosen and Sharon Stiteler (BirdChick Blog); Jan. 24

with Pete Dunne (Cape May Observatory) and Andy Bankert; Jan. 25 with Paul Lehman (WINGS) and Chris Wood (WINGS)

www.pepsi.com

www.spacecoastbirding.com/articles/FirstMangroveSwallow.pdf

www.brevardcounty.us/environmental_management/VieraWetlands-Home.cfm

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Viera Wetlands is a series of connected ponds created to treat wastewater from the Central Brevard area. Since opening in 2001, this site has rapidly gained recognition as a premier birding destination. During fall and winter, a remarkable diversity of bird species uses these wetlands and nearby prairie hammocks and cabbage palm savannahs. An active Bald Eagle nest is visible from the dike road, two families of Crested Caracaras maintain territories around the wetlands, and Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks are regularly seen. Thousands of wintering ducks concentrate here, including Green-winged and Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Mottled Duck, Hooded and Red-breasted Merganser,

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field trips

Lesser Scaup, Ring-necked Duck, Northern Pintail, Bufflehead and Ruddy Duck. Ponds on the north side of the complex are productive for shorebirds when water levels are low, especially during migration. Since opening in 2000, Viera Wetlands has been visited by several rarities, including the first North American record of Mangrove Swallow.

Zellwood & Lake Apopka

Jan. 22, 23, & 24; 5:00am-5:00pm: Limited to 30 registrants; \$70

Jan. 22: Jim Peterson (SJRWMD), Pete Dunne (Cape May Observatory), Dave Goodwin, and Wes Biggs (Florida Nature Tours)

Jan. 23: Pam Bowen (SJRWMD), Alvaro Jaramillo (Field Guides) and Sam Fried (Flights of Fancy Adventures)

Jan. 24: Gian Basili (SJRWMD), Paul Lehman (WINGS), David Simpson (Birding with David Simpson)

Note: Box lunches by Hot Stuff Catering.

www.eagleoptics.com

<http://nbbd.com/godo/SJRWMD-RecreationAreas.html>

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Despite its long history of great birding, this area may well be one of the very best, but least-known birding areas on the entire Eastern Seaboard. Thousands of acres of marshes on the north shore of Lake Apopka were drained back in the 1940s, creating huge muck farms that produced row-crops. A series of dikes and canals were created, and the farms fed millions for more than a half-century. Common farming practices required that the fields be

flooded each summer to kill nematodes. Over a period of several weeks the water was drained back into the lake, creating an ideal habitat for migrating shorebirds at exactly the right time. By the early 1950s birders began to visit the area and always received great cooperation and understanding from the land owners, from the early farmers to the St. Johns River Water Management District which purchased the farmlands in the late 1990s in order to restore wetland habitat and improve water quality in Lake Apopka.

The summer of 1998 was the last time that the farmers flooded the fields, and many of them remained flooded when the water management district took ownership. By that fall a unique habitat consisting of impoundments of varying depths and fields of mud and weeds was created. Shorebirds that would have left in previous years remained into winter and were joined by unprecedented numbers of waterfowl and, in the fields of weeds, large numbers of sparrows, flycatchers and other passerines. Foreseeing the possibilities, Wes Biggs assembled a team of birders, and the first Zellwood/Apopka Christmas Bird Count tallied an amazing 174 species with another 10 seen during count week; a new North American high count for an inland location. As the winter progressed, however, a major bird die-off took place. Apparently years of farming left residual pesticides in the soils, and fish that moved from canals into the flooded fields accumulated toxic levels of pesticides in their tissues. Unfortunately fish-eating birds, such as American White Pelicans began dying off, a

result of pesticide-induced toxicosis. Flooded areas were drained and the area was closed to the public. Years of research have resulted in a better understanding of how these pesticides behave in wetland systems, and how to clean up problematic areas and create high quality wetland habitats.

About half of the area remains closed to the general public, but more areas will be opened in the next few years. Despite having limited access, the SJRWMD has been very supportive of the birding community, allowing continued access under special circumstances. For example, they encourage people to participate in their monthly bird surveys, and provide a great deal of help each year with the Christmas Bird Count which still records 150 or more species each year. Highlights in past years include as many as 13 species of sparrows, including rarities such as LeConte's and Clay-colored, and large numbers of flycatchers. More than 100 Western Kingbirds and up to a dozen Scissor-tailed Flycatchers have been seen at a huge winter kingbird roost. In recent years Cassin's, Tropical and Gray Kingbirds have shown up as well as Ash-throated Flycatchers.

SJRWMD staff has also made special accommodations for viewing rare birds when they are found. The first state records of Rough-legged Hawk and Eurasian Kestrel are the best examples. The first state record of Ferruginous Hawk, second state record of Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, White-cheeked Pintail and Ross' Goose are among the other rarities that have been found there over the years.



**Appearing outside
the Gymnasium**

Friday, Jan. 23

3:00pm-5:00pm

Visit radio.disney.go.com



Field trip with Kevin Karlson during SCBWF08. Photo by Ray Scory



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registration

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Please review the Registration Information below before completing this form.

USE ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER PERSON OR REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.NBBD.COM/FLY

Registration Information

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Register early to avoid missing out on a favorite field trip, workshop or special activity. You **DO NOT** register for seminars or workshops that cost \$5 - these costs are included in your Registration Fee. All seating adheres to Fire Code specifications per room. There will be no standing or sitting on tables or the floor. Welcome bags and lanyards may be picked up at Festival Headquarters - BCC Titusville - from 1:00pm-5:00pm on Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2009. No changes in registrations can be made on that day. Welcome bags and lanyards will also be available for pick up each day at the Registration Desk. If the activity you want is filled, you may indicate a 2nd choice or request to have your name placed on a waiting list for that activity by indicating "Wait" on this Registration Form or indicating "Wait List" online. You must include your cell phone number for contact. First come, first served on all waiting lists.

Registration Fee: The Festival Registration Fee is \$45, and allows you to attend the Opening Reception (\$10), all Afternoon Socials (\$7.50

each), \$5 Seminars and \$5 Workshops. The One-Day Registration Fee is \$22, and allows you to attend the Afternoon Social (\$7.50), \$5 Seminars and \$5 Workshops for the one day that you attend the Festival.

Register by Mail or Fax: To register by mail or fax, complete the Registration Form in this program or print out the form found on the Festival website at www.nbbd.com/fly. Each person must register. Payment may be made by check, money order, or VISA or MasterCard. **Please make a copy of your registration for your own records.** Watch the Festival web site for updates on activities that are filled, reopened, or cancelled. Mailed or faxed registrations will be processed in the order received. Mailed registrations must be received by Jan. 17, 2009. Faxed registrations will not be accepted after Jan. 17, 2009. After that date, you may register at the Festival for any activities that are available.

Register Online: Go to www.nbbd.com/fly - click on the link to Registration and follow the easy fill-in-the-blank instructions Individual-cancelled registrations may cause

filled activities to reopen on a first-come, first-served basis. Use your REGISTRATION # to cancel and/or add activities online: Follow the instructions when canceling an activity or adding an activity.

Registration at the Festival: You may register at the Festival for activities that are available.

Cancellations for the entire festival (by email or fax) and Refunds

- Cancellations made by Jan. 9, 2009 will receive a full refund less a \$20 processing charge.
- Cancellations made Jan. 10-20, 2009 will receive a 50% refund less a \$20 processing charge.
- Once the Festival starts, no refunds will be given unless the Festival cancels an activity.
- The Festival reserves the right to cancel an activity or substitute an activity when necessary. If an activity is cancelled, a refund will be given for that activity only.
- All refunds will be processed within 30-60 days following the end of the Festival.

Registration by mail or fax will be confirmed by email or telephone. No confirmations will be made after Jan. 17, 2009.

Please print legibly. Retain a copy of the completed form for your records.

Attendee Name _____ Date _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State/District _____ Country _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____ Fax _____

Email Address _____

Check appropriate category if you are: Sponsor Speaker Trip Leader Exhibitor Vegetarian Under 16

Are you a first-time attendee? Yes No If no, how many times have you attended? _____ How many in your party? _____

How did you learn about this Festival? (please be specific) _____

Please specify your accommodations for the Festival: Hotel Camp RV Condo Relative Other _____

How many nights will you be staying? (and add'l stay info) _____

Please specify your transportation to the Festival: Fly Drive Rental Car Other _____

Note: All activities are listed alphabetically by date.

Indicate a 2nd Choice in case your 1st Choice is filled. Indicate Wait if you want to be added to the waiting list for that activity.

Attendee Name _____ Date _____

Indicate a 2nd Choice in case your 1st Choice is filled. Indicate Wait if you want to be added to the waiting list for that activity.

Wednesday, January 21, 2009

Art of Pishing	20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	North Brevard Hotspots	40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Attract/Photo Wildlife: Toops.....	35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Shorebird ID for Beginners	15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Beginning Photo: Rosenthal.....	FREE	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	South Brevard County	65.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Black Rails.....	25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Tips For Better Images: Morris.....	35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Gull ID: Tomoka Landfill	25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Tosohatchee WMA	40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Keynote: Rosen	15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>			Viera Wetlands	40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Lake Monroe CA.....	20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Warbler ID	15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Marl Bed Flats.....	20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Wildflowers/Plants (Sem & FT).....	FREE	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Nature Photo: Munguia	35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait					

Thursday, January 22, 2009

Attract Wildlife FT/WS: Toops	60.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Keynote: Wood	15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Attract/Photo Wildlife: Toops.....	35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Little-Big Econ State Forest.....	20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Beginning Birding.....	FREE	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Marl Bed Flats.....	20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Beginning Photo: Rosenthal.....	FREE	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	North Brevard Hotspots	40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Bird/Photo Field: Munguia.....	60.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Photo Field WS: Morris.....	125.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Black Rails.....	25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Photo Field WS: Williams.....	60.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Dicerandra Scrub Walk.....	FREE	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Shorebird ID - Next Level.....	15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Digiscoping Field WS: Taylor.....	FREE	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	South Brevard County	65.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Digiscope/Reach FWS: Nikon.....	FREE	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Tosohatchee WMA	40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
How Not to Ruin...: Morris.....	35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Zellwood/Lake Apopka	70.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait

Friday, January 23, 2009

Art of Pishing	20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Photo Field WS: Heiberg	60.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Attract Wildlife FT/WS: Toops.....	60.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Photo Field WS: Morris.....	125.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Black Rails.....	25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Photo Field WS: Williams.....	60.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Blue Heron Wetlands.....	20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Photoshop for Nature: Munguia.....	35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Central Florida Specialties	70.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Secret Life of Ducks - Field WS.....	25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Digiscoping Field WS: Taylor.....	FREE	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Shorebird Field WS: Begin & Adv.....	40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Florida Scrub Jay/Fire Ecology.....	FREE	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Tosohatchee WMA	40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Historical Sites of CNS.....	50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Viera Wetlands	40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Joshua Creek Tract.....	20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait	Wildflowers/Plants (Sem & FT).....	FREE	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
Keynote: Shearwater	15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>			Zellwood/Lake Apopka	70.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait
North Brevard Hotspots	40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st....	<input type="checkbox"/> 2nd....	<input type="checkbox"/> Wait					

Attendee Name _____ Date _____

Indicate a 2nd Choice in case your 1st Choice is filled. Indicate Wait if you want to be added to the waiting list for that activity.

Saturday, January 24, 2009

- Afternoon Hayride20.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Ancient/Modern Mariners.....60.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Attract Wildlife FT/WS: Toops60.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Barn Owl Pellet Dissection FREE 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Beach Birds in the Field.....40.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Beginning Birding FREE 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Bird ID for Kids..... FREE 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Bird/Photo Field: Munguia.....60.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Birding by Ear & Habitat.....25.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Central Florida Specialties70.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Close-up Photos/Telephoto Lens 35.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Digiscoping Field WS: Taylor..... FREE 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Florida Scrub Jay/Fire Ecology..... FREE 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Forest Biodiversity..... FREE 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Frame-to Frame: Williams FREE 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Joshua Creek Tract20.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Keynote:** Morris15.00
- Native Florida Reptiles..... FREE 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Nikon Basics: Munguia.....35.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- No Child Left Inside..... FREE 1st... 2nd... Wait
- North Brevard Hotspots40.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Photo Field WS: Heiberg60.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Plants & Their Uses thr. History FREE 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Secret Life of Ducks - Field WS .25.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Viera Wetlands40.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Warbler ID15.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Wetlands Management.....15.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Wildlife Refuges - Visit/Volunteer FREE 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Zellwood/Lake Apopka70.00 1st... 2nd... Wait

Sunday, January 25, 2009

- Bird/Photo Field: Munguia.....60.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Birding by Ear & Habitat.....25.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Blue Heron Wetlands.....20.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Gull ID: Tomoka Landfill.....25.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Hal Scott.....40.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Keynote:** Dunne.....15.00
- Marl Bed Flats.....20.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Photo Field WS: Heiberg60.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Secret Life of Ducks - Field WS..25.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Viera Wetlands40.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Wildside of KSC.....40.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Social and Keynote.....25.00 1st... 2nd... Wait
- Social - Child under 12.....5.00 1st... 2nd... Wait

Monday, January 26, 2009

- Pelagic Birding Trip \$115.00

Activity will NOT be charged to your credit card or your check cashed until the trip begins.

Note: Back-up day - January 27, 2009.

Reminder: Next year's Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival will be held on January 27-February 1, 2010!

Attendee Name _____ Date _____

Payment Information - Registration plus Activities

Check, MasterCard or VISA only - No Debit Cards

Registration Fee (covers entry to Opening Reception, Afternoon Socials, Seminars, and \$5 Workshops) \$45.00 \$ _____

One-Day Registration Fee (covers entry to Reception or Social, Seminars, and \$5 Workshops for one day only) \$22.00 \$ _____

Registration Fee is FREE if you are under age 16 and accompanied by an adult FREE \$ _____ FREE _____

Total Activities Costs (1st Choice only) \$ _____ Total Costs (1st Choice only Activities plus Registration Fee) \$ _____

Check Number _____ Amount \$ _____

Credit Card Type MasterCard VISA Cardholder Name _____

Credit Card Number _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ Expiration Date (mm/yyyy) _____

Security Code (3 digits) _____ PIN Code (required for corporate cards) _____

Print Cardholder Name _____ Cardholder Signature _____

By your signature, you authorize a charge to your credit card for the amount listed above.

Payment Information - Pelagic Birding Trip

Check, MasterCard or VISA only - No Debit Cards

Pelagic Birding (Activity will NOT be charged to your credit card or your check cashed until the trip begins.) \$115.00 \$ _____

Check Number _____ Amount \$ _____ If paying by check, please write a separate check for this activity.

Credit Card Type MasterCard VISA Cardholder Name _____

Credit Card Number _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ Expiration Date (mm/yyyy) _____

Security Code (3 digits) _____ PIN Code (required for corporate cards) _____

Print Cardholder Name _____ Cardholder Signature _____

By your signature, you authorize a charge to your credit card for the amount listed above.

Credit Card registrations may be faxed to 321-268-0921 OR mailed to the address below.

Make checks payable to BNA/SCBWF. Mail to Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival, P.O.Box 517, Titusville, Florida 32781-0517.

ALLOW MAIL ADEQUATE TIME TO ARRIVE BEFORE 1/17/09. FAXED REGISTRATIONS NOT ACCEPTED AFTER 1/17/09.

For quick registration, go to www.nbbd.com/fly and register online.

©schwf2008

Do you like the new Program book layout?..... Yes..... No

Easy to find activities/descriptions?..... Yes..... No

Suggestions: _____

workshops

I. Learn About Optics

Introduction to Birding Optics

Jan. 23, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 119; Free

Ben Lizdas (Eagle Optics)

www.eagleoptics.com

Optics are one of the fundamental tools to help ensure a successful and enjoyable birding experience. For the beginner, it can be an overwhelming task to sort through the myriad of choices available to today's birder or naturalist. Ben will present an objective analysis of the options and considerations to make when looking for the binoculars or spotting scope that will best suit your needs and budget. An avid birder and sales representative for Eagle Optics, Ben brings with him years of product knowledge and experience behind the glass to present a clear understanding of the choices available to today's birder.

Selecting Optics for Birding

Jan. 24, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 119; Free

Jeff Bouton (Leica)

www.leica-camera.com

Selecting the "perfect" birding optics is a very personal affair that is different for each individual user. Manufacturers provide a near endless variety of options to fit every consumer's individual needs, making the selection process that much more complex. Join us as we unravel some of the mystery behind what all of those manufacturer's specs really mean to you, the consumer; review advantages and disadvantages of varying options; and learn how each affects actual field performance. By the end of the session, you should be able to sort through the field of optics out there and find the one that is best suited for you and your individual needs!

II. Digiscoping

Digiscoping Field Trip

Jan. 22 & 24: 8:00am-12:00pm; Free

Jan. 23: 1:00pm-5:00pm; Free

Clay Taylor (Swarovski Optik)

Note: Meet in the parking lot for Parrish Park Boat Ramp (north side - adjacent to the picnic pavilions) at the east end of the Titusville Cswy.

www.swarovskioptik.com

This field workshop will serve as a "how-to" for new digiscopers and those interested in starting digiscoping as well as refining techniques for current digiscopers. Participants should bring their scopes, tripods, cameras and adapters. We will cover the basics of field shooting with emphasis on hands-on instruction.

Digiscoping: It's a Beautiful Thing

Jan. 21, 1:00pm-2:30pm; 121; Free

Jan. 24, 2:15pm-3:45pm; 119; Free

Tom Dunkerton (Nikon)

www.nikon.com

Join Tom for an in-depth look at the exciting possibilities of digiscoped photography. Tom will share his experiences of digiscoping Florida wildlife. Topics include choosing your equipment, techniques and image processing. There will be a slide show exhibiting the wide array of subjects and composition that can be achieved with digiscoping.

Digiscoping with Digital SLR Cameras

Jan. 21, 3:30pm-5:00pm; 123; Free

Clay Taylor (Swarovski Optik)

www.swarovskioptik.com

The recent popularity of interchangeable-lens Digital SLR camera bodies creates new opportunities, as well as problems, for digiscopers. If you are contemplating the purchase of a D-SLR or already own one and want to use it for digiscoping, we will cover the equipment needed, help you do the math and cover field techniques.

Digiscoping: Extending Your Reach!

Jan. 22, 1:30pm-4:30pm; Free

Mike Freiberg (Nikon) & Tom Dunkerton (Nikon)

Note: Meet in the parking lot for Parrish Park Boat Ramp (north side - adjacent to the picnic pavilions) at the east end of the Titusville Cswy. at 1:15pm.

www.nikon.com

Join Nikon Sport Optics Naturalist/Birding Marketing Specialist Michael Freiberg and Nikon ProStaff Birding Team Member Tom Dunkerton in the field to learn about digiscoping techniques. Mike and Tom will discuss this exciting form of bird and wildlife photography and share their experiences. Topics covered will include information on Nikon's all-in-one digiscoping system, getting the most out of your equipment in varying conditions. This is a class for beginning digiscopers as well as those with some experience, looking to enhance their techniques. Participants should bring their digiscoping set-ups.

Introduction to Digiscoping

Jan. 23, 11:00am-12:00pm; 153; Free

Ben Lizdas (Eagle Optics)

www.eagleoptics.com

Digiscoping is a simple and effective way to capture images of wildlife at a distance using a spotting scope and digital camera. In this seminar, we will cover the equipment basics of

a good digiscoping set-up, including adapters, scopes, eyepieces, cameras, and tripods. We will also discuss cost-performance benefits of different types of glass and how it can affect your digiscoped photos. In addition to equipment, we will also touch on field technique and image post-processing. We will conclude with an inspiring slide show of digiscoped images and leave time for a question and answer session.

III. Enhance Your Birding Pleasure

Art of Pishing

Jan. 21, 1:00pm-2:30pm; CDR; Limited to 30 registrants; \$20

Jan. 23, 3:45-5:15; CDR; Limited to 30 registrants; \$20

Pete Dunne (New Jersey Audubon Society)

Sponsored by
WILDBIRD
A bimonthly national magazine about backyard and destination birding

Ever wonder how St. Francis did it? Get all those birds to come to his beckon and call? Attend this workshop conducted by Pete Dunne, the guy who, literally, wrote the book

on pishing and find out. In less than an hour you'll be wheezing and shushing yourself into spiritual enlightenment and a few good birds. Bring plenty of liquids. Wear a shirt or jacket with a collar that can be turned up. Those easily embarrassed need not apply.

Beach Birds

Jan. 24, 8:30am-10:00am; CDR; \$5

Adam Kent (Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission)

Sponsored by
FLORIDA'S SPACE COAST
Orlando's Oldest Beach
Clear Beach, Melbourne, Palm Bay, Titusville
Welcome to Florida's Space Coast

You see them all the time - running from the surf, perched on pilings and soaring over the water. If you think they're nondescript grayish variations on the same

theme, you're only partially correct. Have fun learning identification and natural history of the common but often difficult-to-identify birds found on Florida's beaches in the winter. What's the difference between a tern and a gull, or a sandpiper and a plover? Where does the Willet fit in? Explore their variations and sort through some of the subtleties of their shapes and behaviors in this look at these fascinating beach birds. Adam Kent is FWC's Florida Scrub-Jay Conservation Coordinator.

workshops

Beach Birds in the Field

Jan. 24, 11:30am-5:00pm: Limited to 32 registrants; \$40

Adam Kent (FFWCC), Sarah Linney (FNAI) and Bob Wallace

Directions: From BCC, go north on US1 to New Smyrna Beach. Turn right on Canal St. (3 blocks north of US1 & Hwy A1A intersection) and go to the end. Turn left onto Riverside Dr. and go two blocks. Turn right onto Washington St., which immediately becomes North Cswy, the causeway to the barrier island. After crossing the last bridge, turn left onto North Peninsula Ave. The park is two miles north, at the end of the road. Entrance fee is \$3.50 per car (up to 8 people). Drive time from BCC is about 45 minutes.

Note: Meet at Smyrna Dunes Park.

Note: Please make sure you eat lunch or pick something up to eat at the park. There are plenty of picnic tables. No food will be provided. Bring water.

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Smyrna Dunes Park is located on the south side of Ponce de Leon Inlet in Volusia County, at the north end of New Smyrna Beach. This spectacular beachside park offers panoramic views of the ocean, inlet and estuary as well as the opportunity to get close looks at gulls, terns and shorebirds and do a seawatch of the ocean for loons, sea ducks and jaegers. There is always a possibility of finding rarities such as Glaucous or Iceland Gull. Twenty species of shorebirds are probable here, including American Oystercatchers, Piping and Wilson's Plovers, Purple Sandpipers and endangered Red Knots. The session begins at low tide. Participants will take a pontoon boat shuttle to the Disappearing Island sandbar for a close look at the numerous shorebirds, pelicans, cormorants, and up to 15 species of gulls, terns, and skimmers that gather there. Falling tide is the best time to visit Disappearing Island. After spending some time at the island, participants will return to the park when birds are concentrated along the shore near high tide, allowing for close observation and identification practice. The leaders will work closely with participants to demonstrate the process of determining age and separation of difficult gull plumages.

Beginning Birding

Jan. 22, 8:00am-12:00pm; MINWR Visitor Center; Free

Jan. 24, 1:00pm-5:00pm; MINWR Visitor Center; Free

Nancy Corona (USFWS), Kathi McIvor

(WINGS) and Cary Salter; Jan. 24 with Jason & Kathy Frederick.

Note: Meet at MINWR Visitors Center. Free field trip by carpool to Black Point Wildlife Dr. follows classroom session.

www.fws.gov/merrittisland

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Birding is far more than a hobby. It is an open door to the world of nature, a touch point that connects people to the outdoors. Birding inevitably leads to a discovery of turtles, butterflies, wildflowers and all the interconnections of nature. In an informative talk, Nancy will cover field guides and other literature. She will provide helpful hints for beginners on where to find birds and how to identify them, pointing out interesting behaviors, typical silhouettes and identification tricks of the birding trade. Cary will give an overview of optical equipment and how to properly use it. A free field trip to Black Point Wildlife Dr. will follow the classroom session so you can get right out in the field and put your new knowledge to work.

Nancy Corona is the Merritt Island NWR Public Programming and Education Coordinator. Cary Salter is an outstanding Refuge volunteer. He and his wife, Betty, lead free Refuge birding trips twice a week throughout birding season. They have introduced countless people to the wonders of the wildlife of MINWR.

Birding by Ear & Habitat

Jan. 24 & 25, 6:00am-12:00pm: Limited to 16 registrants; \$25

Paddy Cunningham-Pascatore (Birding Adventures)

Note: Meet at the parking lot for the Oak Hammock Trail, 1/2 mile east of MINWR Visitor Center at 5:45am.

www.BirdAdventure.com
www.birdwatchersdigest.com

Sponsored by



Birding by ear and habitat is a great way to increase your ability to identify birds. Advanced birders use birding by ear for 70% of identifications. It is an essential advanced birding skill and necessary to speed up ID and how to locate the bird. Birding by habitat helps you to determine what birds you are likely to see in an area and what can be eliminated for identification. Using a variety of techniques in the field, you will find out how to recognize various species of birds by call and alarm notes and why they make them. The field trip

will begin before daylight in an oak hammock searching for warblers and owls as birds awaken and begin singing. We will travel to various habitats including scrub, pinelands, open field, shoreline, open water, wetlands and roadsides to see the role of habitat in identification. A short classroom session, using a variety of media at the MINWR Visitor Center, will provide you with numerous handouts and additional information and techniques to improve your skills. Two short stops for shorebirds at beach habitats will end the session. Due to the numerous habitats visited during this workshop in the past, 80-plus species have been observed with a high of 96 species for both days. Paddy Cunningham-Pascatore has been a naturalist in South Florida for more than 21 years, teaching Tools and Advanced Tools for Better Birding for 17 years. Her motto is "you learn the ID," and she specializes in assisting birders in a non-intimidating field experience. Her business, Birding Adventures, takes birders to search for birds anywhere they can be found throughout Florida, specializing in Everglades, Big Cypress, Corkscrew and the Florida Keys.

Field Marks We Haven't Met Yet - Birding Outside the Box

Jan. 22, 2:30am-3:45pm; CDR; \$5

Alvaro Jaramillo (Field Guides Inc.)

www.fieldguides.com

Sponsored by



We are trapped in a box when it comes to bird identification. What we try to do is match the colors and patterns of what we see in the field to what is in the field guide. Yet many of us have heard that experienced birders just "know" what a bird is, just the same way that one recognizes friends or family members practically instantly. Getting to this point takes experience, but there are various tips, tricks and voodoo that experienced birders use to recognize birds. Also there are field marks and ways to identify birds that are not in the field guides yet, or perhaps aren't given enough prominence - bits like wing lengths, timing of molt, behaviors, and aspects of voice. This workshop will aim to teach a little bit of birding voodoo and introduce other features to concentrate on while birding. It also aims to be fun and informative and certainly not above anyone's head. The hope is that you will come out of it aching to try out some of what you have learned and begin to claw yourself out of the birding box.

Neotropical Bird ID Workshop**Jan. 22, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 119; \$5****Carlos Bethancourt (Canopy Tower Ec lodge & Nature Observatory)**www.canopytower.com**Sponsored by****BIRDWATCHER'S**
DigestAmerica's Favorite
Birdwatching Publication

When we think of neotropical birds, what comes first to our minds? Is it the images of colorful birds like toucans, parrots, tanagers, or LBJs (Little Brown Jobs)? The number of bird species in the Neotropics is very high, over 3,700 species distributed in a total of 90 families, 31 of these families are endemic to the Neotropics. In fact, the Neotropics is the most diverse of the avifaunal regions of the world. This workshop will help beginning birders, or advanced birders who have not yet visited the Neotropics, to identify this amazing diversity of species. The Neotropics ranges from Central Mexico to Tierra del Fuego (Cape Horn) at the southernmost tip of South America, including the Caribbean. This workshop will help you ID neotropical birds by their silhouette, field marks, posture, size, habitat, behavior and vocalization. It will be the right first step in this monumental task.

Seven-Fold Path to Better Birding**Jan. 23, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 119; Free****Stephen Ingraham (Carl Zeiss Sports Optics)**www.zeiss.com/sports

What do good birders know that you don't (yet)? Here are seven simple disciplines

Sponsored by**ZEISS**We make it visible
Premier
High Performance Optics

Steve Ingraham is the Birding and Naturalist Product Specialist for Carl Zeiss Optics. He is well known from his years as the editor of the "Tools of the Trade" section in Birding magazine, his frequent articles in Wild Bird, Birder's World and Birdwatch (UK) magazines, his appearances at ABA conventions and birding events around the country and as the founder and editor of Better View Desired and betterviewdesired.com on the worldwide web. An ideal class to take before attending the Beginning Birding session on Saturday at MINWR!

Shorebird ID for Beginners**Jan. 21, 3:30pm-5:00pm; Auditorium; \$15****Kevin Karlson (Kevin T. Karlson Photography)****Note: Pre-registration required.**www.kevinkarlsonphotography.com**Sponsored by****RON JON**
SURF SHOP
ONE OF A KINDCocoa Beach, Fla.
World's Largest:
Surf & Lifestyle Products

that will make any birder a better birder and increase your enjoyment of the time you spend in the field. Great for beginners and any birder who wants to improve!

This basic program for beginning birders starts with an explanation of Birding by Impression, which uses a different approach to enjoy and identify birds, with or without binoculars. By concentrating on non-

changeable impressions of size, shape and body language of every bird seen, a more reliable, basic starting point is possible. A similar approach is taken in Kevin's best-selling book, *The Shorebird Guide* (Houghton Mifflin Publishers, 2006), which uses real-life photographs to illustrate this concept. Photos from this book, along with others, will be used to help explain how to build a foundation for identification of shorebirds. Birders of all levels will benefit from this program.

IV. Refine Your ID Skills**Gull ID at Tomoka Landfill Field Workshop****Jan. 21, 11:30am-3:30pm; Limited to 30 registrants; \$25****Jan. 25, 8:00am-12:00pm; Limited to 30 registrants; \$25****Alvaro Jaramillo (Field Guides, Inc.) with Michael Brothers (Marine Science Center) and Bob Wallace; Jan. 21 with Chris Wood (WINGS); Jan. 25 with David Simpson (Birding with David Simpson) and Sharon Stiteler (BirdChick Blog)**

Directions: Take I-95 north to exit 256, Port Orange exit, Route 421. Turn left (west) on Taylor Rd., continue for 2 miles. Turn right (north) on Tomoka Farms Rd., FL415. Go 4 miles north on FL415 to the Tomoka Landfill. Stop at the administration building and sign in. You will also need to sign out upon departure. Drive time from Titusville is about an hour.

Note: Meet at the Tomoka Landfill administration building.www.fieldguides.com**Sponsored by****BIRDWATCHER'S**
DigestAmerica's Favorite
Birdwatching Publication

Photo workshop during SCBWF08. Photo by Ray Scory

One of the only landfills in Florida that allows birders to visit, the Tomoka Landfill is one of Volusia County's most unique and productive birding sites! Join us for a rare opportunity to tour this site with some of the most knowledgeable gull experts in the world. As many as 30,000 gulls of 10 species can be seen at the Landfill. Recent rarities include Glaucous Gull, Iceland (Kumlien's) Gull, Thayer's Gull, and European Herring Gull. Who knows what else we might find - maybe a first state record Yellow-legged Gull or Kelp Gull! The conditions allow for close comparison of similar species with many different age classes and plumages. The dump also offers the opportunity to get great photographs of the dozens of Bald Eagles, and hundreds of wading birds that are present, and adjacent pine flatwoods and open fields hold sparrows and other winter species. This is a trip you will not want to miss!

workshops



Red Tail Hawk in Zellwood at SCBWF08. Photo by Joel Reynolds

Raptors of Florida, Part I: Accipiters, Kites & Falcons

Jan. 22, 3:00pm-5:00pm: 121; \$5

Jeff Bouton (Leica Sport Optics)

www.leica-camera.us/nature_observation/

www.birdwatchersdigest.com/leica

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Opens Unsuspected Glimpses into Nature

Jeff will explore the finer points of raptor identification, looking at the subtleties beyond the obvious (e.g. square tail, round tail) including wing-flap differences, typical flight profiles in soaring and gliding birds, age and sex characteristics and how these can be beneficial in identification. Eleven species will be covered with special emphasis on similar species such as Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks and others, including Swallow-tailed Kite, White-tailed Kite, Snail Kite, Mississippi Kite, Northern Harrier, Northern Goshawk, American Kestrel, Merlin and Peregrine Falcon. Jeff Bouton is the Leica Sports Optics Product Specialist for Birding/Naturalist Markets.

Raptors of Florida, Part II: Buteos, Vultures, Eagles & More

Jan. 23, 12:45pm-2:15pm; CDR; \$5

Jeff Bouton (Leica Sports Optics)

www.leica-camera.us/nature_observation/

www.birdwatchersdigest.com/leica

Sponsored by



Opens Unsuspected Glimpses into Nature

Jeff will discuss some of the confusing soaring raptors, covering 11 species with special emphasis on age classes of the two eagles and tips on how to separate them. Full coverage will be given to the various ranges of plumages in the buteos. Red-tailed Hawk has at least five different, named

subspecies, can be either light or dark morph in many of these and then can be either immature or adult, leaving the average person spinning. He will point out the differences between Swainson's, Red-tailed, Ferruginous and Rough-legged Hawks in their various plumages and will cover Broad-winged, Short-tailed and Red-shouldered Hawks as well as Osprey and Crested Caracara. Jeff Bouton is the Leica Sports Optics Product Specialist for Birding/Naturalist Markets.

Secret Life of Ducks Field Workshop

Jan. 23, 24, & 25; 8:00am-12:00pm, Limited to 28 registrants; \$25

Jessie Barry (Cornell Lab of Ornithology) with Murray Gardler; Jan. 23 with Bill Thompson III (Bird Watcher's Digest)

Note: Meet in the parking lot for Parrish Park Boat Ramp (north side - adjacent to the picnic pavilions) at the east end of the Titusville Cswy. at 7:45am.

www.birds.cornell.edu

Sponsored by



CORNELL LAB OF ORNITHOLOGY
Research, Citizen Science, Education, Conservation

Many people are drawn to ducks for a variety of reasons. Ducks are often relatively easy to see and approachable. Males are usually fairly easy to identify, and ducks' beautiful winter plumages and courtship displays are stunning. But ducks also have a hidden side rarely appreciated by birders: From their unique evolutionary adaptations, to their unique natural history to the critical role that waterfowl play in wetland conservation, waterfowl are fascinating. Join Jessie as she walks us through the basics of waterfowl identification and highlights several riveting life history traits. Did you know that male Common Goldeneye follow females to the breeding grounds, which the females scouted the year before and lay eggs in their sisters' nests? After mating, male Harlequin Ducks abandon their mates to congregate on the coast to molt.

Jessie joins us from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology where she is the Assistant Curator in the Macaulay Library of Natural Sounds. Jessie's engaging personality, brilliance in the field and genuine warmth make her a favorite at birding events. She is also a member of the Nikon Birding ProStaff.

Shorebird Field Workshop: Beginners & Advanced

Jan. 23, 1:00pm-5:00pm; Limited to 24 registrants; \$40

Kevin Karlson (Kevin T. Karlson Photography) and Murray Gardler

Note: Meet in the parking lot for Parrish Park Boat Ramp (north side - adjacent to the picnic pavilions) at the east end of the Titusville Cswy. at 12:45pm.

www.kevinkarlsonphotography.com

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World's Largest: Surf & Lifestyle Products

This hands-on workshop will concentrate on a basic approach to shorebird identification, using both impression-based field characters and details of plumage and feather patterns. Kevin will explain how to build a foundation for shorebird ID using basic impressions of size, shape and body language, and then combine more detailed study of plumage and feather wear to fine-tune your ID conclusion. This workshop is suitable for birders of all levels, but will sometimes include advanced tips that will allow beginners to see what lies ahead in their personal ID evolution.

Shorebird ID: Take it to the Next Level

Jan. 22, 3:30pm-5:00pm: Auditorium; \$15

Kevin Karlson (Kevin T. Karlson Photography)

Note: Pre-registration is required.

www.kevinkarlsonphotography.com

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This seminar combines an impression-based field approach with detailed field-mark analysis to take shorebird ID to new heights of understanding. While Kevin has shared his concept of impression-based birding with participants for the last five years, it is time to move forward and share a combined approach of impressions and field marks to further our understanding of shorebird identification. Specific examples of historic shorebird ID problems, including dowitchers, peeps, willets and plovers, will be covered in detail, along with photographic examples of how both field ID disciplines may be combined to form a more complete ID conclusion. Photos from Kevin's popular book, *The Shorebird Guide* will be used in the presentation. This seminar is advanced in nature and not recommended for beginning birders, but beginners are welcome if they want to see what lies ahead.

Sparrow ID

Jan. 22, 12:45pm-2:15pm; CDR; \$5

Jan. 23, 2:15pm-3:45pm; 153; \$5

Adam Kent (Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission)

This workshop introduces the basics of

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identification of inland sparrows found east of the Mississippi River. Even though most North American sparrows lack the bright colors of many warblers, sparrows'

distinctive shapes, interesting behaviors and subtly beautiful patterns can allow us to identify them with often only a quick glance. Sure, sparrows and their often secretive behaviors can present identification challenges in Florida in the winter. The trick is being prepared. Once you understand the basics of the combination of shapes, behaviors and patterns, you, too, can do away with the term "Little Brown Job." You may even find yourself saying you are going "sparrowing" instead of birding this winter. Adam Kent is FWC's Florida Scrub-Jay Conservation Coordinator.

Taking the Fear Out of Identifying Gulls

Jan. 21, 8:00am-10:00am; CDR; \$5

Jan. 24, 1:00pm-3:00pm; CDR; \$5

Alvaro Jaramillo (Field Guides Inc.)

www.fieldguides.com

Gulls can be a dizzying group to separate

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America's Favorite Birdwatching Publication

(some individuals even baffle experts). Their propensity to wander great distances makes them a favorite of veteran birders everywhere. However, they are also

a perfect group for beginners as they are easy to approach and sit in plain view for extended periods. This allows for detailed study! In this classroom session, Al will review basics such as "parts" of a gull and a basic understanding of age, molt and seasonal variations in plumages. Photos of some of the many plumages shown by commonly occurring Florida species will be shown. Gulls are never truly easy birds to identify, but there are a bunch of tips and tricks which can literally take the fear out of this group, even for a beginner. Do you get all "messed up" when you reach the gull pages in the field guides? If so, this course aims to clarify rather than confuse. A trip to the Volusia Landfill will also take place. This area is consistently productive for many gull species, including some rather rare ones for Florida. Whether you are a beginner just learning these skills or a veteran refreshing them, this class

promises to be a fun and interactive experience. Alvaro (Al) Jaramillo is a guide for Field Guides Inc. and author of the Birds of Chile.

Warbler ID

Jan. 21, 3:30pm-5:00pm; CDR; \$15

Jan. 24, 3:30pm-5:00pm; CDR; \$15

Dr. Peter G. Merritt (Hobe Sound Productions)

Note: Requires pre-registration

www.hsipi.us

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More Recreation Than Any Florida Port

Warblers are small, colorful songbirds that sometimes dart around treetops posing exceptional challenges to birders. One of the challenges is that many species

may be viewed only during spring and fall when they migrate between North America and the tropics. Another challenge is the similarity of plumages of some species in fall and winter. This program relies on unique video to provide integrated views of plumage patterns and behaviors, along with songs and calls to enhance your ability to identify warblers occurring in eastern North America. Highlights include rare video footage of the

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workshops

endangered Kirtland's Warbler wintering in the Bahamas; close-up video comparing similar species, such as the Louisiana and Northern Waterthrushes; and video of frequently misidentified species, like the Orange-crowned Warbler. Peter Merritt is past president of the Florida Ornithological Society and is executive producer of the DVDs *Video Guide to Florida Birds* and *Everybody Loves Birds*.

V. Wildlife Around You

Barn Owl Pellet Dissection or "What's for Dinner?"

Richard Raid (University of Florida Barn Owl Project Coordinator)

Jan. 24, 8:30am-10:00am; BCC Outside Gazebo; Limited to 26 registrants; Free

Note: Requires pre-registration

<http://erec.ifas.ufl.edu/barnowl/owlindex.htm>
www.pentaximaging.com

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This workshop is nature's version of CSI! Have you ever wondered what sort of prey raptors capture and feed on? Due to the alkaline nature of a Barn Owl's stomach, many of the bones, fur and chitinous parts of a Barn Owl's prey are left undigested. Such remains are routinely regurgitated through the mouth in the form of a compact pellet. By collecting and dissecting these pellets, researchers can find out exactly what these marvelous raptors have been eating. Discover for yourself why Barn Owls have frequently been termed the most beneficial bird on the planet. This workshop will enable each adventurous participant to dissect his or her very own owl pellet(s), discovering what lies inside. Then, by comparing skeletal remains utilizing bone charts, you will be able to figure out exactly what a Barn Owl eats. With a bit of collaborative sleuthing, participants may even discover what type of ecosystem is inhabited by the owls that spit up these pellets. Think picking through owl regurgitation is disgusting? Think again! Believe it or not, pellet dissection is a favorite lesson at many schools throughout the nation. Adults, but especially kids of all ages, will find this workshop highly entertaining and informative. Sterilized owl pellets, dissecting tools and bone charts will be furnished to all participants free of charge. Dr. Raid initiated a program promoting the use of Barn Owls for sustainable rodent control in 1994. The Univ. of Florida Barn Owl Program quickly gained the acceptance of the agricultural industry with which Dr. Raid worked, providing the Everglades Agricultural Area with some

of the highest Barn Owl densities in North America. project as an educational outreach program. Thousands of local students, from elementary school to college, have learned the benefits of this spectacular raptor to mankind through his frequent lectures, workshops, and displays.

Bird ID for Kids

Jan. 24, 10:30am-12:00pm; 123; Free
Renier Munguia (Wildstock Photos)

Note: Requires pre-registration

Bring your kids to learn about birds and how to identify them in the field. Kids will learn the basics of birding while improving their identification skills through the use of drawings, photos and bird calls. Interactive activities and worksheets will be used to enhance the learning process.

Eagles in Florida

Jan 23, 11:30am-2:00pm: 119; \$5
Jan 24, 10:15am-12:45pm: 119; \$5

Lynda White (Audubon Center for Birds of Prey)

Note: *Optional carpool field trip after workshop to MINWR Black Point Dr. to learn eagle nest identification in the field.

www.audubonofflorida.org/who_centers_CBOP.html

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With one of the largest populations of Bald Eagles in the contiguous states, Florida faces the challenge of protecting the birds while dealing with unprecedented development. Learn about these magnificent creatures and ways you can help ensure the continued recovery of the species. Meet Paige, the eagle, and bring your camera! Lynda White is Audubon of Florida's Project Eagle Watch coordinator.

Florida Scrub-Jay & Scrub Fire Ecology Seminar & Field Workshop

Jan. 23, 24, 8:00am-12:30pm, Limited to 42 registrants; Free

Dave Breininger and Dr. Paul Schmalzer (Dynamac);

Note: Meet at MINWR. Seminar at the MINWR Visitor Center. A free NASA bus trip into restricted access areas of the Kennedy Space Center to see Florida Scrub-Jay families will follow the presentation.

Note: Pre-registration is a must! For the purpose of security at Kennedy Space Center, we are restricted to offering this trip to U.S. citizens only.

www.dynamac.com/clients/projects/ksc.asp
<http://northflorida.fws.gov/Scrub-Jays/scrubjays.htm>

The Florida Scrub-Jay, fascinating from both biological and conservation perspectives,

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is the only avian species restricted entirely to Florida. Endemic to the scrub habitats of peninsular Florida, Florida Scrub-Jays exhibit a suite of remarkable

adaptations. Scrub habitat evolved when North America was much drier and desert animals from Texas and Mexico colonized Florida. When the oceans rose, the plants and animals remained and evolved into an ecosystem unlike any other on the planet, one that is highly dependent on fire. Dozens of plants and animals living in the Florida scrub are found nowhere else in the world. Florida's desert-like prehistoric sand ridges are home to wondrous animals such as gopher tortoises, indigo snakes, scrub lizards, Crested Caracara, Burrowing Owl, and the Florida Scrub-Jay. The Florida Scrub-Jay lives among the low-growing scrub oaks, eating and "stashing" its acorns.

Today we will focus on the Florida Scrub-Jay, its habitat use, demography and sociobiology in different types of habitat with an emphasis on fire ecology. Dave Breininger is a wildlife ecologist and Paul Schmalzer a plant ecologist for Dynamac Corporation at the Kennedy Space Center.

Kids in Nature Workshop for Kids & Parents

Jan. 24, 11:30am-12:30pm; 121; Free

Jan. 24, 2:45pm-3:45pm; 121; Free

Pat & Ray Ashton (Ashton Biodiversity Research & Preservation Institute, Inc. and The Gopher Tortoise Conservation Initiative)

Note: No unaccompanied children

www.ashtonbiodiversity.org/tortoisereserve

Look Mom! Look Dad!.. What is it? Why does it do that? Can we catch it?.. How often we hear "No don't touch that! Leave it alone! No, I don't know what it is!" We are now going into the third generation of people that have had little experience in nature. With this lack of experience, many parents have little understanding of how to introduce their offspring to the excitement and joy of discovering the nature of plants and animals. This workshop is designed to teach parents how to get their kids into the outdoors and how to carry out safely cool activities that include identifying and observing plants and animals. This program will give parents suggestions on how to plan trips for various age groups, review examples of the materials and books available, and most importantly how given ideas on how to get and keep the

kids excited about plants, insects, snakes, frogs, tortoises, etc. There will be hands-on opportunities to try out activities with their kids and, if weather permits, a chance to try out some techniques outside. Together we will identify, observe and just have fun with nature, teaching parents and kids how to enjoy the natural world with the goal of stimulating both adults and youngsters to do it again and again.

Pat and Ray Ashton began teaching children in scout camps and then natural history museums and as teachers since the 1950s. Their material on international guide training programs was the basis for the Master Naturalist Program.

No Child Left Inside: Using Birds to Reduce Nature Deficit Disorder

Jan. 24, 12:30pm-2:30pm; Auditorium; Free

Bill Thompson III (Bird Watcher's Digest)

Note: Requires pre-registration

www.birdwatchersdigest.com

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BIRDWATCHER'S
Digest

America's Favorite
Birdwatching Publication

Bill Thompson III's kids are like any other children today - they watch a lot of TV and spend time on their computers. But they also are encouraged to come along when

Bill goes birding. Most kids and even adults today have nearly all their time scheduled. The disturbing trend among today's young people to spend almost no time outdoors has led some experts to wonder if this is resulting in a Nature Deficit Disorder: young people with little or no connection to nature. The concern is that if we allow a generation or two to grow up without any outside time, they will not know the natural world and thus will not be interested in protecting it as tomorrow's leaders and decision-makers.

Bill decided to do something about this for his own kids and their friends. He worked with daughter Phoebe's elementary school class for nearly three years to create *The Young Birder's Guide to Birds of Eastern North America*. The resulting book was designed for young birders ages 8 to 12. Phoebe's classmates were involved in every step of the book's creation. The Young Birder's Guide has become an instant best-seller because everyone wants to help kids experience nature and what better way than through birdwatching?

In this program Bill talks about Nature Deficit Disorder, about creating the book, and why he thinks birds are the perfect

welcome mat to introduce today's kids to the wonders of nature. At the conclusion of this presentation, Bill will lead a short outdoor walk to demonstrate how to observe nature.

Tortoise & Wildlife Programs Workshop: How to Make Your Community Wildlife Friendly under the New Tortoise Rules

Jan. 23, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 121; \$5

Pat & Ray Ashton (Ashton Biodiversity Research & Preservation Institute, Inc. and The Gopher Tortoise Conservation Initiative)

www.ashtonbiodiversity.org

www.nbbd.com/godo/ef/gtortoise

What can we do to make our space a better place for tortoises and other wildlife? This program is built on nearly 10 years working with people in communities that have fairly large numbers of tortoises and other listed species of animals in their yards, green spaces and in the lots where people have not yet built. We work with them to learn how they can help new neighbors handle required permits and save thousands of dollars by moving tortoises out of harm's way.

Learn how make your yard tortoise friendly and how to live with them and their burrows. You can save money on exotic planting and costs of watering by learning about native species available for excellent landscaping while providing tortoises and other wildlife with a cornucopia of food. It takes a little planning and can save thousands of tortoises

that potentially will be destroyed under the new permitting processes. The workshop will include information on trapping and moving tortoises safely, how to plan and work with the permitting process on single family lots, making a positive plan where tortoises, birds, and other wildlife can live in a true community sanctuary, how to develop simple, low-cost landscaping in yards and natural areas for tortoises and other wildlife while reducing impacts of pesticides and water use.

Wildlife Refuges - Visiting & Volunteering

Jan. 24, 1:00pm-4:00pm; Limited to 45 registrants; Free

Sandy & Carl Greenbaum, Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge

Note: Meet at MINWR Visitor Center.

www.fws.gov/okefenokee

www.fws.gov/refuges

Join Carl and Sandy Greenbaum, volunteers from Okefenokee NWR, to review four southeast area refuges. See examples of birding, wildlife viewing and photography, just some of the activities available at refuges. Sandy and Carl will also talk about living for free on a refuge while volunteering, helping to greet visitors, give tours, help with refuge maintenance and other activities that provide valuable assistance to the refuge staff. Learn about the advantages and rewards of making a national wildlife refuge your home as a volunteer.



Gopher Tortoise at SCBW08. Photo by Ray Scory

seminars

I. Archaeology & Anthropology

Beneath the Surface: Exploring Florida's Pond Cemeteries

Jan. 24, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 123; \$5

Dr. Rachel K. Wentz (Florida Public Archaeology Network)

www.flpublicarchaeology.org

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Dr. Rachel's seminar explores the Florida phenomenon that took place thousands of years ago - the use of small bodies of water for interment of the dead. Taking advantage of the numerous sources of water across the Florida landscape, Native Americans utilized these natural resources for the disposal of the dead, sometimes including beautifully crafted artifacts and hand-woven textiles. From the west coast of Florida to east coast sites such as Windover, come learn more about the fascinating burial practices of Florida's Archaic people.

II. Int'l Travel & Adventure

Atlantic Forest

Jan. 24, 10:15am-11:15am; 121; \$5

Xavier Munoz (Neblina Forest Birding Tours)

www.neblinaforest.com

The Atlantic Forest of tropical South America boasts 20,000 plant species, 40 percent of which are endemic. Yet, less than 10 percent of the forest remains. More than two dozen critically endangered vertebrate species cling to survival in the region, including three species of lion tamarins and six bird species that are restricted to the small patch of forest near the Murici Ecological Station in northeastern Brazil. With almost 950 kinds of birds occurring in this hotspot, there are many unique species including the Red-billed Curassow, the Brazilian Merganser, and numerous threatened parrot species.

The Atlantic Forest stretches along Brazil's Atlantic Coast, from the northern state of Rio Grande do Norte south to Rio Grande do Sul. It extends inland to eastern Paraguay and the province of Misiones in northeastern Argentina and narrowly along the coast into Uruguay. Also included in this hotspot is the offshore archipelago of Fernando de Noronha and several islands off the Brazilian coast.

We at Neblina Forest had the chance to visit this unique habitat and realize that our

activities of ecotourism can help local people and local communities to conserve these unique habitats with an alternative to support local economy. With over 400 birds and 90 endemic birds, this is with no question one of the last nature paradises in Brazil.

Belize - Little Known Jewel of Central America

Jan. 23; 2:30pm-3:30pm; 121; \$5

Jan. 24; 2:30pm-3:30pm; 123; \$5

Sam Fried (Flights of Fancy Adventures, Inc.)

magesfried@aol.com

With some of the largest remaining tracts of undisturbed rain forest in Central America, it is no wonder that Belize hosts myriad species of tropical birds, mammals, reptiles and insects. In addition to its animal life, the history and archaeology of ancient Maya cities is no less astounding.

We visit several locations, all with outstanding wildlife viewing: Lamanai Outpost Lodge, on the New River Lagoon and adjacent to the extensive Lamanai ruins, site of a Maya city occupied for 2000 years, where jacamars and kingfishers now build their nests in ancient temples; Chan Chich, a lodge and reservation built on a Maya plaza deep in the Belizean forest, home to a multitude of birds due to its wide variety of habitats and several species of wild cats; and Crooked Tree Wildlife Preserve with its vast congregations of wading birds, featuring the rare and elusive Jabiru stork, largest flying bird in the Western Hemisphere.

Birding Central Panama, One of the Birdiest Areas in the World!

Jan. 21, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 119; \$5

Jan. 24, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 123; \$5

Carlos Bethancourt (Canopy Tower Ecolodge and Nature Observatory)

www.canopytower.com

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Ecology & Nature Observatory

Central Panama covers an area of only 25,000 square kilometers and boasts an incredible diverse avifauna of more than 600 species. This is due to the variety

of habitats present in such a small area, ranging from mudflats to cloud forest and, in between, marshes, lakes, savannahs, brushes, transitional and lowland forests, all within one hour driving time! Birding is easy and very productive indeed as is the viewing of mammals. During the fall and spring raptor migration, there are days of up to 75,000 Swainson's Hawks and Broad-winged Hawks in the air at once. In 1997, visionary Raul Arias de Para seized an opportunity when he took over an abandoned U.S. Air Force radar tower, located in the middle of Soberania National Park, and converted it into The Canopy Tower, a small ecolodge specialized in birding and wildlife observation. It offers its guests an extraordinary opportunity to live in the canopy of the rainforest and to appreciate the rich and diverse fauna and flora of Central Panama.



Redlegged Honeycreeper. Photo by Joanne Williams

The unique culture and history of the former Panama Canal Zone is also readily accessible. Raul recently opened a second ecolodge in a cloud forest habitat. The Canopy Lodge is set in a verdant canyon above El Valle de Anton, outside of Panama City, 2,500 feet above sea level. This is the habitat of foothill species not seen in the lowland forests, Beautiful slides and informative maps will illustrate this presentation by one of Panama's top birding guides.

Brazilian Pantanal & Cerrado Wildlife

Jan. 23, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 121; \$5

Jan. 24, 9:00am-10:00pm; 119; \$5

Luis Segura (Trogon Tours)

www.trogon-tours.com

Located on Brazil's Bolivian border, the Pantanal is the largest wetland on Earth. Its habitats range from semi-deciduous and evergreen forests to palm woodlands and true "Pantanal" (seasonally flooded grasslands with scattered clumps of cerrado scrub on elevated patches of land). Enormous numbers of lakes and rivers cross the region, constantly renewing the wetlands. The Pantanal is considered the easiest place to see and photograph an incredible collection of neotropical fauna. Dry-season shrinking of vast flooded areas concentrates fish for waders, caimans and carnivorous mammals. Giant otters, crab-eating raccoons, foxes and a myriad of herons and storks seek this food resource. The Pantanal is also home to the most spectacular neotropical cat of all - the jaguar; chances to see one here are high! The Cerrado's very characteristic vegetation corresponds to "arboreal savannas" of other tropical continents. Dominating west-central Brazil and extending into Paraguay, it is formed by sparsely scattered low trees and bushes with twisted branches, thick grooved bark and leathery leaves. Termite nests are prominent, providing a great attraction to nesting birds that tunnel into their depths and for termite-feeding mammals such as the giant anteater. A naturalist's journey to Brazil could not possibly be complete without visiting the Pantanal and Cerrado, a place where the most remarkable animals of the neotropics live. We invite you to discover these unique ecosystems in their entire splendor.

Kazakhstan: A New Birding Frontier

Jan. 21, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 153; \$5

Jan. 22, 2:15pm-3:15pm; 153; \$5

Simon Thompson (Ventures Birding & Nature Tours)

www.birdventures.com

Southeastern Kazakhstan offers endless

steppes, lakes, rivers, and pine-covered mountains. Because of the centralized geographic location, birds indicative of both the Oriental and Western Palearctic regions can be found. From the stony deserts near the former capital, Almaty (Alma-Ata), to the Tien Shan Mountains close to the Chinese border, the variety of landscapes will amaze and the birding is nothing short of spectacular. Even their names evoke the rugged landscape and remote mystery associated with this part of the world. Many of the birds we will be seeing are little known and indeed very rare vagrants to Western Europe. Birding tours are new in Kazakhstan, and we are among the first U.S.-based tours to spread our wings to explore this part of the world.

Marañón Valley: Endemic Birds in Peru

Jan. 23, 11:30am-12:30pm; 121; \$5

Jan. 24, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 153; \$5

Xavier Munoz (Neblina Forest Birding Tours)

www.neblinaforest.com

Many species of limited distributions occur in Peru, tending to be concentrated in habitats that form isolated islands of similar habitats where these unique species evolved. Areas with such concentrations of restricted-range species are known as Endemic Bird Areas or EBAs (first defined and designated by BirdLife International in 1997).

The Marañón valley is one of the principal biogeographic divides in the Andes and is an EBA that supports 22 restricted-range species. This EBA, which is dominated by arid habitats, lies in the rain shadows of the mountains to its east. The habitat is highly variable, ranging from Cactus-Prosopis desert, dense herbaceous scrub with cacti and Acacia, seasonally dry Ceiba dominated forest and gallery forest dominated by Salix. Most of the endemics are restricted to these arid habitats. The main sites are found near the towns of Jaen, Bagua, Chachapoyas, Balsas, Celendin and Cajamarca.

Of Peru's 100 endemics, 30 are found exclusively in the north. Ten more widespread Peruvian endemics as well as numerous Tumbesian and Montane specialties are possible as they are only found in northern Peru and southern Ecuador. We at Neblina Forest believe birding is a great tool to encourage the local people to be involved in conservation.

Penguins of the World

Jan. 22, 4:00pm-5:00pm; CDR; \$5

Debra Shearwater (Shearwater Journeys)

www.shearwaterjourneys.com

Everyone sees penguins in a different way.

hands-on wildlife safari

Jan. 23 & 24, 10:00am-5:00pm; Exhibit and discussions in front of the BCC Gymnasium; Free

www.hands-on-wildlife.org

www.fpl.com

The mission of Hands-On Wildlife Safari is to help preserve the Earth's diversity through the use of "hands-on" education, enlightenment and entertainment. They have added worldwide affected wildlife to their programs, offering a broader wildlife experience and larger presentation topic base with Florida panther, North American bobcat and African spotted serval cat, along with reptiles and birds from all over the world.

Our Motto is "Education + Experience = Conservation." We believe that as much as 60% more information is retained when a tactile experience is involved along with good education. Our programs combine the facts that our wildlife educators give you... then add being close to one of the world's most impressive and endangered species, the Florida panther, or touching the glossy scales of a Florida king snake for the first time, or hearing the many verbalizations of the spirited and beautiful North American bobcat. You will walk away with the gift of being surprisingly educated while having an experience that you will never forget.

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what to wear

January is typically Florida's coldest month, however temperatures can fluctuate wildly. You can expect the average temps to be in the 40s and 50s at night and the 60s and 70s in the daytime. Temps can dip into the 30s at night and never leave the 50s during the daytime after the passage of a strong cold front. Rain is very scarce in January however a passing cold front may be accompanied by a squall line. It is best to plan to layer your clothing. It can be very cold in the morning at sunrise and then warm up nicely during the day. It will be chilly out on the water on kayak and boat trips, so dress warmly. Be sure to bring rain gear if you are going on the pelagic trip! More than likely, the wind will blow and spray will fly. The Gymnasium can be on the chilly side too. Bring a sweater or a jacket if you are an exhibitor.

seminars

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Ocean adventurers, exceptional divers and amazing survivors, penguins have managed to adapt to the harshest climate on earth, spending their lives in the frigid sea and on ice and snow-covered slopes. Join Debra Shearwater for an in-depth look at these appealing creatures. Using slides, she will discuss every species of penguin in the world - emperors, kings, gentoos, rockhoppers, chinstraps, adelies, Galapagos, macaronis, royal and little - 18 in all. She will discuss their special adaptations to a life at sea, their sense of vision and smell, their behavioral adaptations, breeding courtship and distribution. You'll find out why the color yellow is so important to penguins in establishing relationships and how they waterproof themselves. From Australia to the Falkland Islands, these gentle animals were easy prey for explorers, whalers and other fishermen. Even today, waste and oil spills threaten their lives and homes. Debra has traveled to many of the world's penguin centers and captured thousands of images of these very special and delightful birds!

Ultimate Nature Journey to Patagonia & Antarctica

Jan. 21, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 153; \$5

Jan. 23, 10:15am-11:15am; 121; \$5

Luis Segura (Trogon Tours)

www.trogon-tours.com

If you considerate yourself a modern day

explorer, who wish to discover some the last wildernesses on Earth, this is the perfect journey for you. Be delighted by breathtaking views of Southern Right Whales at the Valdés Peninsula, and spend time with 200,000 pairs of Magellanic penguins nesting at Punta Tombo. Search for such spectacular birds as the Magellanic Woodpecker, and Austral Pygmy-Owl in Tierra del Fuego, and navigate the waters of the Beagle Channel on the way to the Cape Horn and on to the Drake Passage, as a myriad of seabirds glide around our vessel. Cross the Antarctic Convergence in the company of whales, to finally reach the iceberg-spangled waters of Antarctica, and the first Antarctic land at the South Shetlands. Join us to the southernmost part of the world in this unique discovery journey to Patagonia and Antarctica.

III. Domestic Travel & Adventure

Best of Birding North America with Carl Zeiss

Jan. 21, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 119; Free

Stephen Ingraham (Carl Zeiss Sports Optics)

www.zeiss.com/sports

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Denali National Park & Highway, Prince William Sound, Copper River Delta

Jan 21, 3:00pm-5:00pm; 121; \$5

Sam Fried (Flights of Fancy Adventures, Inc.)

magesfried@aol.com

Part I: One of the largest and perhaps most spectacular of America's National Parks, Denali (formerly Mount McKinley) "knocks your socks off" with its scenery! Using Camp Denali, a wilderness lodge at the western edge of the park as our base, we travel among the majestic peaks of the Alaska Range, all dwarfed by "The Great One," Mount Denali itself. East of the Park is the 134-mile Denali Highway, a fantastic public road wandering through boreal forest and open tundra, providing easy access for exploration on your own. Everywhere, spring wildflowers carpet the tundra and line the roadside.

Not to be outdone by the scenery, the bird and mammal life in both areas is both abundant and exquisite. Grizzly bears with cubs scouring the tundra for food, moose and caribou trying to avoid grizzlies, Dall sheep on the cliffs and arctic ground squirrels everywhere can almost steal the show. But nesting Golden Eagles, Gyrfalcons, Long-tailed Jaegers, Willow and Rock Ptarmigans, Northern Shrike, Surf-birds and many others keep bringing your attention back to the skies.

Part II: One of the most beautiful and bountiful bodies of water on earth, Prince William Sound is surrounded by snow-capped mountains and tidewater glaciers. Each spring, following the spawn of the Pacific herring, massive numbers of seabirds, shorebirds and marine mammals follow the herring into the sound for a feeding frenzy. Traveling aboard the yacht "Discovery," explore the sound's intricate and exquisite shoreline.

The Copper River Delta, near Cordova, Alaska, hosts the largest gathering of shorebirds in the world. Up to 20 million shorebirds pass through annually, as they fatten up for the last leg of the journey to their arctic breeding grounds. Inland birding can also be quite spectacular, in this northernmost temperate rain forest with large concentrations of Bald Eagles, the entire world population of Dusky Canada Geese and large numbers of breeding Trumpeter Swans.

Great Fla. Birding Trail: The Next Generation

Jan. 21, 12:45pm-2:15pm; 153; \$5

Jan. 23, 4:00pm-5:15pm; 153; \$5

Mark Kiser, Selena Kiser (Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission)

www.floridabirdingtrail.com

Part I: With 502 recorded species, Florida has the highest bird diversity in the eastern U.S.



Roseate Spoonbill dorsal view flight, Alafia Banks, Tampa Bay, FL. Photo by Arthur Morris



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But how does one find all those great birds the Sunshine State has to offer? Enter the Birding Trail. Come hear about the GFBT's new interactive trip-planning tool and how

you can search among nearly 500 sites for Florida's most desirable and iconic species. Part II: Looking for some new birding sites to visit, perhaps a bit closer to home to save money on gas? Outstanding birding opportunities await you on Florida's Wildlife Management Areas. We'll discuss some of the birdiest WMAs around the state and why they should be on your must-see list. The Birding Trail is a project of FWC, supported by FDOT and the Wildlife Foundation of Florida.

Seabirds & Marine Mammals of Monterey Bay
Jan. 24, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 153; \$5
Debra Shearwater (Shearwater Journeys)
www.shearwaterjourneys.com

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Attracting visitors from all over the world, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary is the largest federally protected area in the lower 48 states. Encompassing 5300 square miles of open water, its boundaries span near-shore and deep-ocean habitats. Its deepest point lies 10,663 feet below the surface in the Monterey Submarine Canyon, which is twice the depth of the Grand Canyon. Coastal habitats in the sanctuary afford important feeding, breeding and resting areas for many mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians. From Brandt's and Pelagic Cormorants to sea otters and migrating gray whales, this rich area sustains an abundance of marine life. Offshore habitats are equally varied and supportive of life. Black-footed Albatrosses fly in search of squid to feed their young. It is here on the open sea that millions of Sooty Shearwaters feed on schools of anchovies and wheeling flocks of Buller's Shearwaters spend the winter in search of food. Ashy Storm-Petrels raft in flocks after feeding at night. Common Murre fathers bring their newly fledged chicks to these rich waters and Rhinoceros and Cassin's Auklets are found in large numbers on the canyon edges. Migrating Arctic Terns, Sabine's Gulls, Pomarine and Long-tailed Jaegers and Xantus' and Craveri's Murrelets also pass by. Humpback whales feed here year-round and blue whales stay the summer. Monterey Bay is a major destination

for both beginning and seasoned birders. Its protected, half-moon shape allows for year-round trips. Join Debra Shearwater as she presents an informative and exciting lecture on this truly magnificent and timeless place. She will illustrate her lecture with slides and stories from her 33 years of running birding trips on Monterey Bay.

IV. Birds, Wildlife & Plants

Archie Carr: The Man who Saved Sea Turtles
Jan. 22, 3:30pm-5:00pm; 153; \$5
Frederick R. Davis, Ph.D. (Florida State Univ.)
www.us.oup.com/us/catalog/general/subject/HistoryOther/HistoryofScience/?view=usa&ci=9780195310771

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Archie Carr was the world's authority on the ecology and conservation of sea turtles for most of his distinguished career. Carr's study of turtles spanned five decades (1937-1987) and his work provides a unique window into the development of biology in the 20th century. In addition, he was a gifted nature writer, and his stories brought to life the natural history of sea turtles and the culture of places such as Florida, the Caribbean, and Africa. More than any other individual, Carr was responsible for the international conservation of sea turtles through his efforts with the Caribbean Conservation Corporation. This illustrated talk provides a thorough introduction to Archie Carr and the turtles he strove to save from extinction. Davis recently published *The Man Who Saved Sea Turtles* with Oxford University Press.

Barn Owls: Nature's Mousetrap
Jan. 23, 2:30pm-3:30pm; AUD; \$5
Jan. 24, 10:30am-11:30pm; CDR; \$5
Richard Raid (Barn Owl Project Coordinator, Univ. of Florida)
<http://erec.ifas.ufl.edu/barnowl/owlindex.htm>
www.pentaximaging.com

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Since 1994, the Univ. of Florida has been involved in a program promoting Barn Owls as a sustainable means of rodent control. Hundreds of nesting boxes now dot the Everglades Agricultural Area of south Florida. The UF Barn Owl Project has met with great success in increasing Barn Owl population in the Glades, with boxes exhibiting nearly 100% occupancy. Agriculture and wildlife are

family activities

All Festival activities are suitable for young people and many are of educational value for K-12. The following activities may be of particular interest to families. Youth under 16 years of age are admitted free to all Seminars, \$5 Workshops and Keynote Presentations, when accompanied by a paying adult.
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seminars

not the sole beneficiaries. In this seminar, presenter Dr. Richard Raid will describe the biology of these marvelous raptors and detail the project's progress. Attendees will also be treated to amusing stories and video involving the use of Barn Owls and regurgitated owl pellets for youth education, not to mention, free pellets for their own enjoyment.

Employed by the University of Florida as a professor of plant pathology, Dr. Raid initiated a program promoting the use of barn owls for sustainable rodent control in 1994. The UF Barn Owl Program quickly gained the acceptance of the agricultural industry with which Dr. Raid worked, providing the Everglades Agricultural Area with some of the highest Barn Owl densities in North America. Not one to miss an opportunity for engaging kids in nature, Raid has used the project as an educational outreach program. Thousands of local students, from elementary school to college, have learned the benefits of this spectacular raptor to mankind through his frequent lectures, workshops, and displays. Now, more widely recognized for Barn Owls than plant pathology, Dr. Raid and the UF Barn Owl Project have been featured on CNN, the National Geographic Society's website, and PBS's Nature series.

BirdChick Blog: The New Nature Journal

Jan. 23, 2:00pm-3:00pm; 123; \$5

Jan. 24, 9:15am-10:15am; AUD; \$5

Sharon Stiteler (BirdChick Blog)

www.birdchick.com

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You all have photos and you all have stories that you can't get published in any of the birding magazines. What do you do? Start your own site and share your natural observations. Sharon's presentation includes how to start a blog, techniques you can use to enhance your blog, and a guide to some birding and nature blogs that are out there. This is a PowerPoint presentation and plenty of time is allowed for questions.

Bird Habitats & Bird Distribution in North America

Jan. 23; 2:30pm-3:30pm; CDR; \$5

Paul Lehman (WINGS)

www.wingsbirds.com

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WINGS

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Join Paul Lehman on a tour of North America's major avian habitats - from the arctic to the subtropics, the ocean to alpine tundra -

sampling what these areas look like, where they are found, and enjoying many of the characteristics and special birds found in each. We will also visit a number of habitat "outposts" where localized species may be seen.

Birding in a Post-Darwinian World

Jan. 22 & 24; 1:00pm-2:30pm; 121; \$5

Jonathan Rosen

<http://wordpress.com/tag/jonathan-rosen/>

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The theory of evolution, now 150 years old, was devised by Alfred Russel Wallace and Charles Darwin, both amateur scientists with a keen eye for the natural world. Both men wound up drawing radically different ideas from their discovery - Wallace came to feel that evolution affirmed religious meaning in the world, and Darwin came to feel it denied it - but the theory they agreed on has changed the way we look at the natural world, and ourselves. This is a discussion about how birdwatching in some sense makes us all 19th century naturalists again - amateurs piecing the world together for ourselves. When Wallace found a new species of bird of paradise, he wrote that it was "his greatest discovery yet" - even though he had already discovered the theory of evolution by means of natural selection! Does the natural world contain more than the answers derived from it? What do we look for and hope for when we look at the natural world? And how do we participate in the struggles and discoveries of men like Darwin and Wallace?

Bird like the Experts

Jan. 24, 4:00pm 5:00pm; 121; \$5

**Jessie Barry (Cornell Lab of Ornithology)
and Chris Wood (Cornell Lab of Ornithology)**

www.birds.cornell.edu

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Do you feel like you've learned the basics of bird identification but are stuck in a rut? Are you trying to get the next level? Have you been in the field with experts able to identify just about every bird before you could focus your binoculars? And you thought you'd never be able to do that. In a presentation sure to be as entertaining as it is educational, Jessie Barry and Chris Wood will demystify how experts identify birds. Chris Wood and Jessie Barry are widely heralded as leaders of the next birding generation. They join us from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology where Jessie

is the Assistant Curator in the Macaulay Library of Natural Sounds and Chris serves as the Project Leader for eBird and the Avian Knowledge Network. Jessie and Chris's engaging personalities, brilliance in the field and genuine warmth make them the favorites at birding events. Chris is also a Senior Leader with the bird tour company, WINGS. Jessie is a member of the Nikon Birding ProStaff.

Bluebird Trails Across America

Jan. 23 & 24, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 119; \$5

Connie Toops (Connie Toops Photographic Services)

www.lostcovefarm.com

www.agpix.com/toops

While researching her award-winning book, *Bluebirds Forever*, nature writer and photographer Connie Toops visited bluebird trails in Maryland, Ohio, Minnesota, Montana, and Oregon. These "trails" are

networks of bluebird nest boxes monitored by dedicated individuals and groups who promote increasing populations of eastern, mountain, and western bluebirds and other cavity-nesting species. Using her own spectacular photos and amusing personal anecdotes, Connie shares tips and techniques that have been successful for bluebirds and their hosts throughout the country. The talk includes information on the natural history of these captivating birds, on the selection, placement, and maintenance of nest boxes, and on landscaping to attract bluebirds to backyards or local parks.

City Bird, Country Bird Housing & Feeding

Jan. 23, 12:45pm-1:45pm; 123; \$5

Jan. 24, 10:30am-11:30pm; AUD; \$5

Sharon Stiteler (BirdChick Blog)

www.birdchick.com

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How to attract birds no matter where you live - from the middle of the country to an apartment in an urban area, using nesting boxes and platforms and includes information on anti-predator tactics. Birds are tailored to the state or region the presentation is given. Based on the book I wrote for Adventure Publications, *City Birds, Country Birds*.

Going Batty!

Cyndi & George Marks (Florida Bat Conservancy)

Jan. 23, 10:15am-11:15am; 119; \$5

Jan 24, 11:30am-12:30pm; 119; \$5

<http://www.floridabats.org/>

Take a break from birding and meet some of Florida's flying mammals. Cyndi and George Marks of the Florida Bat Conservancy will introduce you to the fascinating world of bats. With a beautiful slide presentation and live bats, you will learn about the amazing diversity of bat species, their incredible echolocation skills, and their importance to ecosystems worldwide. Cyndi and George are the founders of the Florida Bat Conservancy and co-authors of *Bats of Florida*.

Kingfishers & Their Allies

Jan. 21; 1:30pm-3:00pm; 123; \$5

Jan. 22; 2:00pm-3:30pm; 123; \$5

Jeffrey A. Gordon (Leica Sport Optics)

www.leica-camera.us/nature_observation

Nearly all of North America is blessed to have the Belted Kingfisher as a resident, at least part of each year. Even non-birders recognize

and appreciate the distinctive behaviors, spectacular plumage, and unusual life history

of this unique species. But as wonderful as the Belted Kingfisher is, it's just one of dozens of spectacular kingfishers to be found around the world. Kingfishers include some of the world's most most extravagantly colorful and bizarre-looking birds. And if you broaden the scope to include some of their allies in the Order Coraciformes, things get really wild: bee-eaters, rollers, mot-mots, hornbills, hoopoes - these stout-billed birds must surely rank high on any list of the world's most incredible animals, feathered or not. Join us for a fun, informative survey of the kingfishers and their brethren, from their role in mythology to their amazing natural history, to an appreciation of their sumptuous coloration.

Life of Birds

Jan. 23, 10:30am-12:00pm; AUD; Free

Renier Munguia (Wildstock Photos)

www.wildstockphotos.com

This presentation covers all aspects of a bird's life from the adaptations that allow them to survive in their environment to their amazing flights and displays. Some of the topics to be covered include physical adaptations as well as behavioral adaptations, communication, foraging, courtship, nesting, brooding and many bird facts and real-life stories. You'll get lots of detailed information about many species around the world with special emphasis on Florida birds.

Migrant & Vagrant Traps of North America

Jan. 22, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 119; \$5

Paul Lehman (WINGS)

www.wingsbirds.com

A successful vs. unsuccessful day in the field during migration will probably be determined by when and where you decide to go birding and by what types of birds you are looking for. Join Paul Lehman on a slide

tour of North America's migrant hotspots, from eastern Newfoundland and the Dry Tortugas to the western Aleutians and the California coast - and everywhere in between. We'll visit a wide variety of islands, peninsulas, "habitat islands" and oases, isolated lakes and reservoirs, even a few garbage dumps and sewage treatment ponds along the way! Topics covered include what makes for a good migrant/vagrant trap, when to visit and characteristic and special birds found at many of the sites.

Native Florida Reptiles

Jan. 24, 1:15pm-2:45pm; Limited to 40 registrants; Free

Paul Schlieb (Friends of the Enchanted Forest, Inc.)

Directions: Drive south on US1 through Titusville. About a mile south of town, drive west on SR405. The entrance is on the right, about 1/2 mile west of the US1 interchange.

Note: Requires pre-registration.

Note: Meet at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary.

www.enchantedforestfriends.org

Explore the fascinating and often misunderstood world of reptiles. The presentation will cover reptile classification and physiology, stressing their ecological importance. Learn about various endangered species and what you can do to help reptile conservation. Learn about exotic and invasive species. Some of our interesting local species will be showcased for observation. Information will be presented on venomous species, trying to dispel the many myths that surround these strange creatures.

Parrots: Secret History in the United States

Jan. 23, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 153; \$5

Jan. 24, 9:00am-10:00am; 121; \$5

Susan Epps

www.greenbirds.us

www.parrotsinthecity.com

www.californiaparrotproject.org

Did you know that Rose-ringed Parakeets were breeding at the Port of Los Angeles in 1956? Or that there were flocks of "green" parakeets near the river in Miami, Florida in 1948? There is no single forum for tracking the parrots and

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New Ways
to Know

parakeets seen in the US, but a search of list serves of lost and stolen birds and reports in various state ornithological publications and *North American Birds* has shown that nearly all states have reported occasional single escaped birds or breeding pairs. Not only are Peach-faced Lovebirds breeding in Arizona, but a pair with young were recently found in Orlando, Florida. In the 1970s there was a colony of Rose-ringed parakeets in Hampton, Virginia that was established for eight years and may still be there. These beautiful, intelligent, and adaptable birds are adding color and joy to the landscape of our nation, without competing with native species or becoming agricultural pests. Susan will tell more stories of parrots in many areas of the country and show slides to help identify them. There will be handouts of locations to find the birds in several states. She is the author of *Parrots of South Florida* and is working on *Parrots of the United States*, a book that will include the well-known birds of Florida and Texas, plus the parakeets of Seattle, Honolulu, Chicago, San Francisco, and more.



seminars



Anole. Photo by DeeAnn Kiesel

Purple Martins

Jan. 22, 12:45pm-1:45pm; 123; \$5

Jan. 23, 9:00am-10:00am; 121; \$5

Susan Halpin (Purple Martins-R-Us)

www.purplemartins-r-us.com

Susan Halpin's interest in birds began when she moved to rural palm beach county. In her desire to create habitats for birds on her property, she learned of the difficulties faced by native cavity nesting birds. Having always been fascinated by swallows flying through on their annual migration, Susan was overjoyed when she learned that Purple Martins could be enticed to nest in backyard birdhouses. Three years ago she began having success attracting them to her property and in 2008 she saw 65 Purple Martins fledge from her backyard housing. She is a stay at home mother of two young boys with whom she encourages stewardship through active participation. She has a website, www.purplemartins-r-us.com where she provides information on Purple Martins and gifts and apparel that feature some of her art work of Purple Martins.

Roger & Us: Inside the Making of the "Peterson Field Guide to Birds of North America"

Jan. 23, 3:45pm-5:00pm; AUD; Free

Jeff Gordon, Paul Lehman, Bill Thompson III, Lisa White

Note: A book signing will be held in the MIWA booth following presentation.

www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/peterson/petersonhome.cfm

For over two years, editor Lisa White and a team of birding experts worked to update and combine the plates and text from the classic Peterson Field Guides to Eastern and Western Birds into a new, continent-spanning single volume. They drew up entirely new range

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New Ways to Know

maps, updated the plates, painted some entirely new figures, and produced a series of video podcasts that covered everything from Peterson's biography to profiles of favorite species. Published on the centennial of Peterson's birth, August 28, 2008, the book celebrates the legacy of one of North America's most important and beloved naturalists. Join Lisa, Bill, Paul, and Jeff for a behind the scenes view of the joys and frustrations of attempting to recast a classic and expand the Peterson system into new media.

Wading Birds - Barometer of Ecosystem Functioning in the Indian River Lagoon System

Jan. 22, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 153; \$5

Dr. Eric Stolen (Dynamac Corporation)

<http://www.dynamac.com/clients/projects/ksc.asp>

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Over the past half-century, humans have drastically altered the wetland habitat within this estuary. Some species have benefited from these changes while others have suffered. Efforts currently underway are attempting to restore much of the wetland habitat in the northern IRL to its original state. The affects of restoration on wading bird populations here remains to be seen. Ecologists working for NASA have been monitoring wading bird populations

in the northern IRL since 1987. Originally designed to determine if Space Shuttle launches were affecting nesting colonies near the launch pads, the monitoring program now includes investigation of wading bird foraging habitat throughout the Kennedy Space Center - Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. Key issues affecting wading bird populations in this region include: management of impounded wetlands, regional-scale land development, impacts on the estuary from human populations, and changes in sea-level and climate due to global warming.

Weather & Bird Migration

Jan. 22, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 119; \$5

Paul Lehman (WINGS)

www.wingsbirds.com

A birder needs to know not only where the best places to look for migrants are and at what periods during the season particular species are most apt to occur, but they also need to have a basic understanding of the workings of the weather and how it impacts bird migration. Understanding and closely following the weather is a crucial component of successful birding. Heading out into the field without first checking a weather forecast, particularly during the spring and fall migration seasons, may hinder your success as much as or more than forgetting your field guide or spotting scope. Throughout North America, weather plays a crucial role in the timing and volume of migration, and in the occurrence of vagrant species. One of the best ways to improve your bird-finding skills is to better understand weather patterns and how they affect bird migration and distribution. Paul will begin with a basic weather primer and then cover the influences various weather conditions have on bird migration.

Yard Lizard? Florida's Anole Revealed

Steve Isham (Commahawk Publishing LLC)

Jan. 23, 1:15pm-2:15pm; AUD; Free

Jan. 24, 1:15pm-2:15pm; 153; Free

Note: Booksigning for "Anoles: Those Florida Yard Lizards" follows each presentation at the Friends of the Enchanted Forest booth.

www.anolebook.com

Mistakenly called chameleons, geckos or skinks, anoles are probably the most populous and conspicuous wildlife in the entire state of Florida on any warm day. They are in practically everyone's yard. Learn where they come from, where they live, how they establish and defend territories, what they eat, what eats them, why they change color, how they climb smooth surfaces, and much more. Find out how to help save our native green anoles while encouraging beneficial plant growth.

photography

Milton Heiberg

Milton Heiberg Photography
www.miltonheiberg.com

Bird Photography

Jan. 22, 11:00am-12:00pm; 119; \$5

Milton Heiberg, author of *The Essentials of Nature Photography*, will teach you how to capture digital images of the beauty of birds - not just snapshot portraits. He will cover the best locations for bird photography, and how to approach birds with telephoto lenses. Learn how to photograph birds in flight, using techniques taught by this 35-year veteran of nature photography. If you are planning to attend Milton's photo field workshops to Bio Lab Rd., you should seriously consider this seminar.

Close-Up Photography with Telephoto Lenses

Jan. 24, 12:00pm-2:00pm; 153; \$35

Note: Outdoor Workshop, 1:00pm-2:00pm

Note: Meet in front of the Gymnasium at 1:00pm for the outdoor workshop portion.

This is a new twist on close-up photography. Learn how to capture the beauty of nature close-up with telephoto lenses through techniques taught by Milton Heiberg, author of *The Essentials of Nature Photography* and a 35-year veteran of nature photography. The slide lecture and seminar portion (12:00pm-1:00pm) will cover photography of wildflowers, insects, butterflies and other small creatures. For the outdoor workshop portion (1:00pm-2:00pm), we will take a walk out back to one of the fallow areas of the campus and get down into it. Come with or without your camera with telephoto and/or close-up lenses. You will look at small nature subjects from a whole new perspective and visually study their beauty in a brand new light, both literally and figuratively.

Interpretations of Nature Series: Florida's Nature Photography Hot Spots

Jan. 23, 11:00am-12:00pm; 123; \$5

Let yourself float in a pool of total relaxation and, with open eyes, dream of the Earth's finest products. Milton Heiberg's Interpretations of Nature Series has a new addition put to music. This year's theme is made up of Milton's recent work from a selection of Florida's best photographic places. Among them are Fort DeSoto, Everglades, Merritt Island, Orlando Wetlands, Green Cay, and many others. These images tell a story of this part of our planet, Florida, that you the viewer may reflect upon. You bring something of yourself to it and take something away with you. It's a "must see."

Photography Field Workshop

Jan. 23, 1:00pm-5:00pm; Limited to 12 registrants; \$60

Jan. 24, 5:45am-10:00am; Limited to 12 registrants; \$60

Jan. 25, 5:45am-10:00am; Limited to 12 registrants; \$60

Note: The Jan. 23 fieldtrip will be similar to the other two days, but will end at East Gator Rd. for a sunset shoot.

Note: Meet in the parking lot of the Parrish Park Boat Ramp (north side - adjacent to the picnic pavilions) at the east end of the Titusville Cswy.

We will start along the beautiful water edge of Bio Lab Rd. as the sun rises over the lagoon. Then, hopefully the Scrub-Jays will be cooperative and give us a show. After a quick pit-stop at the Refuge Visitor Center we will travel the berm roads, or Black Point Drive depending on the activity reports. Milton Heiberg, a 35-year veteran of nature photography, teacher of the subject for 20 years at the New York City Audubon Society and now at The Crealdé School of Art in Orlando, and DPA (Digital Photo Academy - Panasonic's national school of digital photography). He is the author of seven books on photography. Many of his students have become well published and noted nature photographers, including Florida's own Arthur Morris. You will receive a gratis copy of Milton's classic book, *The Essentials of Nature Photography*. We will catch a sunrise over the waters of Mosquito Lagoon, drive,

Digiscoping activities can be found in Workshops.

walk and stalk the abundant bird life along the way. Bring tripod and a 300+mm lens.

Arthur Morris

BirdsAsArt
www.birdsasart.com

How NOT to Ruin Your Images in Photoshop While Making Them Look Great in Minutes

Jan. 22, 12:30pm-3:15pm; Auditorium; \$35

Join Artie for an in-depth session to learn how to optimize your images quickly and efficiently; Levels, Curves, Shadow/Highlight, and Quick Masking among others.

Photography Workshop in the Field

Jan. 22, 5:45am-10:00am; Limited to 12 registrants; \$125

Jan. 23, 5:45am-10:00am; Limited to 12 registrants; \$125

Note: For the two Black Point Dr. trips, meet at 5:45am in the parking lot of the Parrish Park Boat Ramp (north side - adjacent to the picnic pavilions) at the east end of the Titusville Cswy.

Join Artie on Black Point Dr. at the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge for an in-the-field workshop full of tips and techniques. Evaluate photography situations. Learn to understand and use the available light. Practice getting close to your subject and lots more. Personal pointers from Artie that will help make photography more enjoyable and images more memorable.

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Cattle Egret breeding plumage close-up. Photo by Arthur Morris

photography

Tips for Making Better Natural History Images in the Field

Jan. 21, 12:30pm-3:15pm; AUD; \$35

Join Artie for an in-depth session to learn about exposure and histograms, lens selection, image design, and more.

Reinier Munguia

Wildstock Photography

www.wildstockphotos.com

Bird ID for Kids

See description in Workshops.

Nature Photography

Jan. 21, 8:15am-9:45am; 123; \$35

This presentation covers useful techniques for those interested in nature photography. Reinier will cover techniques on how to improve the quality of your images through the use of proper exposure, how to deal with the dynamic range of modern digital cameras and the use of ND filters. Learn how to solve problems in the field, what gear to take with you and how to see nature from a documentary perspective. Master the light and conquer the elements that can ruin a great shot. Learn techniques on how to deal with harsh light, wind and other things that can affect the quality of your images.

Life of Birds

See description in Seminars.

Photoshop for Nature Photographers

Jan. 23, 3:15pm-5:15pm; 123; \$35

This workshop is especially designed for the nature photographer who wants to make the best use of digital technology. Learn photo touch-up techniques and color solutions for the digital workflow. You will study how to get the best results from your digital or conventional captures and how to solve problems through a series of live demonstrations using real photos. Using Adobe Photoshop® or Adobe Photoshop Elements® you'll learn how to extend the dynamic range, preserve shadows and highlights, use the histograms, use the layer mask, selective blur, remove digital noise, enhance sharpness, control backgrounds, monitor calibration, color correction, printing techniques, remove defects and softening backgrounds. Learn through a series of live demonstrations using real photo situations. All participants will receive a multimedia CD-ROM on *Photoshop for Nature Photographers*.

Nikon Basics

Jan. 24, 8:30am-10:00am; 123; \$35

This presentation is geared towards Nikon users who want to learn more about their camera equipment, shooting techniques

and tips. Learn about the importance of using the right auto-focusing mode and how to master the metering system. The presentation includes an extensive coverage of in-camera features as well as processing RAW files using Nikon NX software. Batch processing and U-point technology will be explained in detail. A plus for any Nikon D-SLR photographer looking to maximize the camera's capabilities.

Bird Photography Field Workshop

Jan. 22, 5:45am-10:00am (Black Point Dr.); Limited to 12 registrants; \$60

Jan. 24, 12:15pm-5:30pm (Viera Wetlands); Limited to 12 registrants; \$60

Jan. 25, 5:30am-10:00am (Viera Wetlands); Limited to 12 registrants; \$60

Note: For the Black Point Dr. trip, meet at 5:45am in the parking lot of the Parrish Park Boat Ramp (north side - adjacent to the picnic pavilions) at the east end of the Titusville Cswy.

Note: For the Viera Wetlands trip on Jan. 24, meet in front of the BCC Gymnasium at 12:15pm.

Note: For the Viera Wetlands trip on Jan. 25, meet in front of the lobby of Clarion Inn KSC (South US1) at 5:30am.

This workshop was developed to enhance your photography skills through in-depth instruction in the field and practice on location. On Jan. 22, we will visit Black Point Wildlife Dr. We'll head down to Viera Wetlands on Jan. 24 and 25 to make use of the best afternoon or morning light while shooting a variety of birds. You'll learn techniques that will help improve your photography, including approaching birds effectively, in-flight techniques, exposure and metering, lens-handling techniques, flash techniques, controlling backgrounds, enhancing sharpness and more. Price includes a bird photography multimedia CD-ROM.

Joel Rosenthal

www.flickr.com/photos/joelrosenthal/sets/

Beginning Photography (The how-to and jump-start for photography you always wanted but could never find...till now.)

Jan. 21, 10:00am-11:30am; 123; Free

Jan. 22, 10:30am-12:00pm; 121; Free

Note: Requires pre-registration

This seminar is intended to introduce absolute beginners and anyone interested in getting started, to digital photography of birds and wildlife. Joel will address what's involved in digital photography and provide guidance, rather than instruction. His object is for participants to develop a good idea of whether

and what kind of digital photography is most suitable for them, and how to go about getting started in a knowledgeable and productive manner.

Topics covered will include: The differences between digital and film photography; the types of digital photography and pros and cons of each (point-and-shoot (P&S), digiscoping, and digital single lens reflex (D-SLR)); equipment selection and purchase as well as various practical considerations including cost, travel issues, physical limitations of the user and the equipment, and special considerations when photographing with non photographers in a group. Joel will present an overview of the role of software, post-processing, storing and printing images, posting and transmitting on and through the Internet, and photo-related opportunities for social networking.

Joel will provide a hands-on display of his gear, and photographs he has printed, supplemented with other online images. He will provide handouts containing links to a wide range of useful internet resources covering the gamut of photo related topics.

Joel Rosenthal's interest in photography as a hobby lapsed in 1973, but was revived with the purchase of a pocket digital camera prior to visiting a Costa Rican rain forest in 2005. He returned there a year later, having progressed to a Digital Single Lens Reflex (D-SLR) camera with interchangeable lenses. In the last two years, Joel has taken bird and wildlife photographs in Costa Rica, Panama, Ecuador (twice) and most recently, Peru, as well as South Florida. Joel considers himself an advanced amateur and processes and prints all his images at home. Examples of his wildlife photography may be seen at www.flickr.com/photos/joelrosenthal/sets/.

Connie Toops

www.lostcovefarm.com

www.agpix.com/toops

Attracting & Photographing Wildlife in Your Backyard

Jan. 21, 3:45pm-5:15pm; 119; \$35

Jan. 22, 3:45pm-5:15pm; 123; \$35

Note: Attendance at the classroom session is required prior to field trip participation.

Nature writer and photographer Connie Toops specializes in designing backyard landscapes to attract and photograph wildlife. Toops, the author of *Bluebirds Forever* and *Hummingbirds: Jewels In Flight*, will share tips on planting wildlife food and nesting cover, installing water features, nest boxes, and feeders that will draw

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Leopard. Photo by Joanne Williams

songbirds, hummingbirds, butterflies, frogs, and turtles to your garden.

Using stunning photos from her own backyard habitats and backyards across the country, she will inspire you with ideas about creating photogenic settings near your deck or patio. She will also suggest camera equipment and techniques for successful wildlife photography. A basic understanding of camera equipment will enhance your enjoyment of this offering. Although a common incentive for creating backyard habitats is personal pleasure, many wildlife gardeners help preserve wildlife. This workshop will enhance the wonder your backyard provides and allow you to share compelling photographs with family and friends.

Attracting & Photographing Wildlife Backyard Field Trip

Jan. 22, 23, 24, 7:30am-12:00pm; Limited to 12 registrants; \$60

Note: Meet at 7:15am in front of the Gym for the car pool trip to the two backyard locations.

Note: Attendance at the classroom session is required prior to field trip participation. (See class sessions scheduled for Jan. 21 & 22.)

Join photographer Connie Toops for a visit to two local backyard(s) that have been designed with optimal wildlife viewing in mind. Toops, who specializes in creating backyard landscapes where she attracts and photographs wildlife, will identify the elements of food, water, cover, and nesting places to stimulate wildlife interest. She will also assess sight lines and settings to enhance photo opportunities for birds, small mammals, and other backyard critters. Toops will critique blinds, feeders, perches, and

photo equipment necessary to make arresting photos. In addition to learning how to set up a successful backyard "studio," participants will have the opportunity to photograph in the host yards.

Bluebird Trails Across America

See description in Seminars.

Joanne Williams

www.joannewilliamsphoto.com

Photography Field Workshop

Jan. 22, 5:30am-10:00am (Viera Wetlands); Limited to 12 registrants; \$60

Jan. 23, 5:45am-10:00am (MINWR); Limited to 12 registrants; \$60

Note: For Viera Wetlands, meet in front of the Clarion Inn KSC (south US1, south of SR50) at 5:15am.

Note: For MINWR, meet on the east side of the CVS Pharmacy at 5 Garden St. in Titusville at 5:45am.

Join Joanne Williams, an accomplished professional photographer whose work is seen in numerous national and international publications, for a morning of photography instruction. Practice composition, appropriate equipment settings and learn the techniques Joanne uses. You must have a working knowledge of your camera equipment. Those with digital equipment, beginners and non-photographers are welcome.

From Frame to Frame - Journey of an Image

Jan. 24, 2:30pm-5:00pm; AUD; Free

Note: Requires pre-registration

Note: Joanne is sponsoring a Charity Drawing during her presentation to benefit

the local Florida Wildlife Hospital which cares for and rehabilitates injured and homeless birds and animals. Please visit Joanne Williams Photography exhibit booth to purchase your tickets. Drawing items include: two 30-minute portfolio critiques by Joanne; signed select original pieces of art; camera equipment like Better Beamers & Screen-Shades; gift certificates and items donated by Hunts Photo of Boston. Joanne's Charity Drawing tickets are \$3 at her booth or \$5 at the entry to her presentation.

This story begins with the first "click" of the shutter button and ends with the last "tap" of the hammer to the nail. The question often asked of me is "how did you ever get that picture?" Most of the time the real answer is "through a process which often begins long before the first press of the shutter button, and could end hours, days, weeks, months or even years later"... before the image makes "the cut" to the gallery wall!

Wildlife and nature photography is often inexplicably spontaneous due to the nature of the subject, and we, the photographer, have to quickly adapt in order to successfully capture the image. More often than not, a great deal of thought has had to be given to how to go about getting that image, especially if it isn't in my own back yard. Often different modes of transportation enter into the equation as well as serious consideration to my personal safety & well-being as well as that of the equipment I use. This presentation is solely about photography with many 'how-to' tips achieving the very best performance from your camera and from yourself. As always, I strive to include everyone interested in wildlife and nature photography with ALL types of equipment (point & shooters, 'digiscopers' and digital & film SLR users). There will be numerous tips on how I travel with my equipment, especially with the ever-changing, "fickle whims" of each airline in each country I take my tours to. Also, the relatively new challenges that arise from traveling and charging digital camera batteries and computers will be discussed. More & more I am leading tours right here in Florida, and will introduce new equipment I use as well as share the older tried & true methods I've used in order to get to that hard-to-find, elusive subject. There will also be a slide presentation showing many wonderful images and explaining how they were achieved. We will have an open question and answer time within the program as well as drawings for door prizes. Please note that this is a presentation about Photography not a Photoshop class. You, TOO, can achieve fabulous images using ONLY a camera.

water adventures

With an abundance of rivers, creeks and estuaries to explore, these trips were selected to showcase some of the Space Coast's very best locales. Estuary trips may provide glimpses of bottle-nose dolphins, but sightings of manatees in open estuarine waters at this time of the year would be rare due to cold temperatures. The weather can be very uncertain at the end of January. It is advisable that you contact your outfitter on the afternoon before to make sure weather conditions are conducive to running the trip. Please meet outfitters at the sites 15 minutes before the times indicated. No food will be provided on the kayak trips. Dress warmly; rain gear will help to keep you dry. Bring water, snacks, hats and sunscreen.

Boat Tours

Biogeography of the Thousand Islands

Jan. 24 & 25, 9:00am-12:00pm; \$35/person; Tour limited to 16 persons.

Wildside Tours (800) 695-1770

Trip Leaders: Capt. Ben Evans and Jim Eager

www.wildsidetours.com for a map and more information.

Directions: From I-95 or US1, turn left on SR528. This will turn into A1A at Cape Canaveral. Continue South on A1A to Cocoa Beach. Go past Minuteman Cswy. and City Hall. Turn right on South 5th St. for one block, then turn left on Brevard for 100 yards. Turn right on Ramp Rd. for about 2 blocks to the city park at the end. Find the only catamaran tour boat.

Note: Dress warmly.

This trip on the tour boat, "Wildside", will provide an introduction to the "Thousand Island" nature preserve which is an excellent example of the mangrove ecosystem. We will also cruise residential canals and the open Banana River around the Brady Island rookery. These areas are accessibly only by boat and this stable catamaran will provide a great opportunity for photographs. Capt. Ben is a retired science teacher and Biogeographer. He will talk about the natural history of this "most bio-diverse area in North

America". The ever changing dynamics of native species and those introduced by man, will be pointed out. Ben's expertise is plants and ecology, but the co-leaders are birders. On a slow day, the 13-15 mile cruise will encounter the 20-30 bird species common to this brackish water, as well as bottlenose dolphin. A good January day, with lots of migratory species, could produce twice that many and a few more mammals and reptiles. We will provide free soft drinks and cold water and the sunshade and restroom will add to the comfort of your trip.

Kayak Trips

Fox Lake & South Lake

Jan. 21, 23, & 25, 8:30am-12:00pm; With boat rental \$25/person; Bring your own boat \$15/person

Space Coast Kayaking

Trip Leader: Jim Durocher, cell (321) 784-2452, (321) 243-0279

Directions: From the intersection of SR50 and SR405 (by the Walmart) in Titusville, take SR405 (South St.) north approximately 2 ½ miles to Fox Lake Rd. Turn left and go west two miles to the park. Follow the road along the lakeshore until you see the kayaks. From the intersection of US1 and Garden St., go west on Garden St. approx 3 miles to the four-way stop. Turn left on

Carpenter Rd. and follow it to the end. Turn right on Fox Lake Rd.

www.spacecoastkayaking.net
info@spacecoastkayaking.net

Two beautiful freshwater lakes joined by a canal are frequented by some highly sought after birds, including Limpkin, Purple Gallinule, Black-bellied Whistling Duck and Bald Eagle. A variety of wading birds, waterfowl and raptors are expected.

Haulover Canal & Mullethead Island

Jan. 23 & 25, 8:30am-11:30am; With boat rental \$28/person; Bring your own boat \$15/person

A Day Away Kayak Tours (321) 268-2655

Trip Leader: Mike Mahan

Directions: Cross the Titusville Bridge and head toward Black Point Wildlife Dr. Go past the Drive to the stop sign at SR3. Turn left and go 4.5 miles, crossing over the Canal. Take the first left at the bottom of the bridge, across from the Manatee Viewing Platform sign. Follow the road around, turning right and passing through a gate. Go all the way to the end.

Note: To schedule your trip online: <https://www.adventurecentral.com/user/web/wfDetails.aspx?CLUID=1e5fa7aa-4fe5-4e70-9d43-b907c5314584&AID=10521&Preview=true>

info@adayawaykayaktours.com
www.adayawaykayaktours.com

The best location on MINWR from which to view dolphins and manatees (in warmer weather), Haulover Canal is a passageway between the Indian River Lagoon and Mosquito Lagoon. Just to the west lies one of the state's most significant colonial waterbird nesting islands. Mullethead Island and its surrounding grass flats provide an opportunity to view a variety of birds from the water's level. Sandbars near the island provide loafing spots for large numbers of shorebirds, pelicans, gulls and terns.

Mosquito Lagoon from Riverbreeze Park

Jan. 22 & 25, 7:30am-12:00pm; With boat rental; \$30/person; Bring your own boat; \$18/person

Village Outfitters (321) 633-7245

Trip Leader: Peter Houston

Directions: Go north on US1 2 miles past the yellow caution light in Oak Hill. Look for a brown sign identifying the park. Turn right on H. H. Burch Rd. and go east to the



Gator. Photo by Ray Scory



Reddish Egret. Photo by Joanne Williams

park entrance on the left. Please arrive at 7:15; tour leaves on time at 7:30.

Note: This trip is for intermediate and advanced kayakers.

www.villageoutfitters.com
villageoutfitter@bellsouth.net

This spectacular area of Mosquito Lagoon is characterized by a maze of waterways filled with dozens of mangrove islands. A wide variety of wading birds, shorebirds, gulls and terns are possible. Dolphins and manatees (in warmer weather) are sometimes seen in the deeper waters of the Intracoastal Waterway.

Pelican Island

Jan. 22 & 25, 10:00am-1:30pm; With boat rental \$25/person; Bring your own boat \$15/person

Kayaks, Etc. (772) 794-9900

Trip Leaders: Kristen & Mike Beck, Certified Florida Master Naturalists

Directions: Launch from Jungle Trail off A1A just past the Pelican Island Wildlife Refuge Viewing Area. Turn off A1A just north of Windsor and south of the inlet bridge. Drive south a half mile on Jungle Trail past the turn off for the viewing tower.

www.kayaksetc.com
info@kayaksetc.com

The spectacular sight of American White Pelicans, Brown Pelicans, Anhingas and Cormorants surrounding America's first national wildlife refuge is the culmination of a pleasant paddle through mangrove-lined waterways graced with numerous wading birds.

Pine Island Conservation Area

Jan. 23, 8:00am-1:00pm; With boat rental \$30/person; Bring your own boat \$18/person

Village Outfitters (321) 633-7245

Trip Leader: Joshua Deel

Directions: Head south on US1 to SR405. Take SR405 east (towards KSC Visitor Complex) to Space Commerce Way (one red light before you reach the visitor center). Turn right and go to SR3 (Courtenay Pkwy). Turn right on SR3 and go to Pine Island Rd., approximately 2 1/2 miles on the right. Turn right and go to the end.

Note: Close-toed shoes are recommended. Please bring plenty of water.

www.villageoutfitters.com
villageoutfitter@bellsouth.net

Set aside as a buffer zone for the Indian River Lagoon, Pine Island provides a 879-acre tract of mixed ecosystems ranging from pine flatwoods to mangrove swamp to saltwater marsh. Wading birds and marine mammals are common in or about the Indian River while raptors frequent the uplands areas. Part of this tour will involve a short walk to the interior of the hammock.

Thousand Islands

Jan. 21, 22, 23, 24, & 25, 7:30am-11:00am; With boat rental \$25/person; Bring your own boat \$15/person

Adventure Kayak of Cocoa Beach (321) 453-6952, cell (321) 480-8632

Trip Leader: Bill Kowalik

Directions: Launch from the end of Ramp Rd. in Cocoa Beach. From the intersection of SR520 and Hwy. A1A, go south on A1A for several miles. Just past the Minuteman Cwy., turn right on 5th St. South. Go one block west to North Brevard Ave. and turn left. Take the first right on Ramp Rd. and go to the park.

info@kayakcocoabeach.com
www.kayakcocoabeach.com

Rich in both tropical and temperate plant species, these islands provide protection from the wind for paddlers, making this a choice destination on days when it is too windy to paddle the open waters of the lagoon. The canals between the islands provide shelter for manatees (in warmer weather) and dolphins and a wide variety of wading birds.

Turkey Creek

Jan. 23 & 26, 9:00am-12:30pm; With boat rental \$25/person; Bring your own boat \$15/person

Kayaks, Etc. (772) 794-9900

Trip Leaders: Kristen & Mike Beck, Certified Florida Master Naturalists

Directions: Launch from Alex Goode Park in Port Malabar. From the intersection of US1 and US192 in Melbourne, go south on US1 for about 5.5 miles to Port Malabar

Blvd. Turn right and go over the railroad tracks to Bianca Dr. Turn right on Bianca Dr. and follow it to the park.

www.kayaksetc.com info@kayaksetc.com

This trip offers the best possibility for sighting manatees in January. A wide variety of habitats highlight your journey from the wide open waters of a saltwater estuary to a sheltered narrow winding blackwater creek lined with lush hydric hammock. Precipitous, high sandy bluffs are encountered at the upper reaches of the creek.

kayaks!

free tryouts & demonstrations

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A Day Away Kayak Tours (321) 268-2655

Mike and Elizabeth Mahan

www.adayawaykayaktours.com

and

Extreme Sports Kayaking (321) 779-4228

Cheryl and Dave Spencer

www.extremesportskayaking.com

Never tried kayaking? No problem!

Don't miss this chance to develop your paddling skills in a controlled environment. Join the growing number of people who choose kayaks as a way to enjoy the unique treasures that make Florida such a beautiful place to enjoy nature and the outdoors. Once you master the art of using a low profile kayak, you'll be amazed at how easy it is to get REALLY close to wildlife and enjoy stunning scenery that seemed inaccessible before. This is the opportunity of a lifetime to ask questions of experts and get into a kayak and try it out!

Saturday, Jan. 24

10:00am-2:00pm

Chain of Lakes

Directions: From Brevard Community College, go north on US1 approx 3/4 of a mile. Turn right on Jay Jay Rd. Go about 1/2 mile and turn right into the park, just west of the soccer fields. Follow the road around and go past the softball fields on the right. Outfitters will be set up on the lakeshore directly behind Brevard Community College.

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