

The 19th Annual Space Coast birding & wildlife Festival 2016



Presented by

Dixie Crossroads Seafood Restaurant & The Brevard Nature Alliance
Titusville, Florida • January 20 - 25, 2016 • Eastern Florida State College North Campus



Why so excited?

- ☐ Just saw a Kirtland's Warbler
- ☐ Just made new friends
- ☐ Just experienced firsthand what the **ABA** is all about
- ☒ All of the above!

aba.org/join



We are proud to sponsor
Brevard Nature Alliance's
19th Annual Space Coast
Birding & Wildlife Festival

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on the cover

why *do* flyingfish fly?

Photo by Steve N. G. Howell

In theory it is to escape from predators such as the fast-swimming tuna, swordfish, and dolphins inhabiting the warm waters where flyingfish live. But once airborne, these remarkable fish can face other challenges... Seabirds such as boobies have learned to accompany ships and hunt flyingfish flushed as the ships cut through the water. Here a white morph adult Red-footed Booby pursues a Fenestrated Naffwing - in this case the fish escaped back into the sea, but often they don't. To learn more about flyingfish, check out *The Amazing World of Flyingfish* by Steve N. G. Howell (2014, Princeton Univ. Press), a great little book full of colorful photos and fun facts.

Sponsored in part by the Brevard Co. Board of County Commissioners
through the Brevard Cultural Alliance, Inc.

www.artsbrevard.org



www.VISITFLORIDA.com

This project received financial assistance
from VISIT FLORIDA®



ORLANDO'S CLOSEST BEACHES
www.visitSpaceCoast.com



The Southeast Tourism Society promotes economic development through travel and sustainable tourism in 12 states of the Southeast U.S. The Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival has been the recipient of this recognition five out of the last 6 years.



The mission of the Brevard Nature Alliance, Inc. is to build public awareness and appreciation of the value of Brevard County's natural resources by fostering and promoting ethical nature-based tourism.

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

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.

Festival Staff

Laurilee Thompson, Festival Founder Neta Harris, Executive Director
Dianne George, Community Relations Barbara Hoelscher, Programs Director
Roy Halpin, Social Media Coordinator DeeAnn Jennings Kiesel, Graphic Design

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. Visit the Volunteer section on www.spacecoastbirdingandwildlife festival.org

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

the new Space Coast birding & wildlife festival

the Space Coast

Brevard County Florida

A remarkable place. Marsh lands. Cypress swamps. Pine flatwoods. Oak hammocks. Rivers and lakes. Fruit groves. Mangroves. Estuaries and the Atlantic Ocean. Undisturbed nature and wildlife are everywhere. A migration path for insects, birds, whales and fish. The Kennedy Space Center, where man's adventure in space began.

January on the Space Coast. Chilly mornings and cool days. Lots of sun, not much rain. Zero probability of snow showers. Dominant colors are green and blue, not winter white. Deer, wild hogs, alligators, foxes, bobcats, raccoons, otters, dragonflies and butterflies all over. Manatees, dolphins, rays, fish and other sea life are abundant. The birds - from the smallest hummingbird to the second largest bird in North America, the White Pelican - this is their winter home. Many species of ocean birds can be seen on a half day boat trip. More shorebirds, ducks, spoonbills, egrets and herons than can be imagined. That's January on the Space Coast of Florida.

So, what's new?

With more than 100 photography activities, today's festival is for those who record natural events - in the class, in the field and on the ocean - all taught and led by some of the finest photography professionals in the world. The latest cameras, lenses and photo gear will be on display with hands-on demonstrations.

Today's festival will also have its regular field trip adventures to splendid locations and fascinating talks given by authorities in their respective fields of expertise.

Full Moon. Celebrity birders. Tons of trailer trips. Loads of free activities. Art show. Socials. Exhibits. Raptor Project. Keynotes. Return of afternoon seminars and the Fox Lake Sunday Social. Half day boat trips to focus on near shore wildlife. Remarkable sponsors and partners. Scores of passionate speakers, field trip leaders and volunteers - all here to help you enjoy your visit.

This is the New Space Coast Wildlife & Birding Festival 2016.

welcome!

festival information

Contact the festival office by phone: 321-268-5224 or by e-mail neta@brevardnaturealliance.org. Mailing address is P.O. Box 517, Titusville FL 32781-0517.

The office is staffed Monday through Friday 9:00am-4:00pm. Office functions will move to Eastern Florida State College - Titusville campus (1311 N. US 1, Titusville, FL 32796) on Jan. 19, 2016 to facilitate the set-up of the Exhibit Center. Telephone numbers and email address remain the same for contact during the Festival.

The Festival Registration Desk is located in the Lobby of the Gymnasium and will be open each day to facilitate early Field Trips.

Tue., Jan. 19, 1:00pm-5:00pm for pick up of ID and Welcome Bag only

Wed., Jan. 20, 6:00am-6:00pm

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

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

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

Sun., Jan. 24, 6:00am-1:00pm

Food service will be available Wednesday through Saturday in the Snack Bar area as follows:

Free coffee or hot tea by the Festival: Available for you to serve yourself Wednesday through Saturday

Reel Bar-B-Que serving a variety of foods from 9:00am-3:00pm

Brusters serving breakfast and a variety of foods and ice cream from 8:00am-3:00pm outside in the south walkway

Tables: Available in the south hall of the Gymnasium and outside in the covered pavilion

Water: Available on each field trip bus and per bottle for car pools - please pick up at the Registration Desk

Please Note: No food or drink allowed in the Auditorium, classroom or keynote presentations.

Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

The Festival is ADA accessible to classrooms, restrooms, food service, exhibit area, Art Show & Competition, and Silent Auction. Arrangements for field and boat trips handled on an individual basis.

exhibit center

The exhibit area is the site of important Festival traditions and activities in which we invite you to visit and participate. Here you will find the new annual Bird Count List, Silent Auction, and many excellent exhibitors: artists, crafters, wildlife & birding organizations, nature-specialty businesses, photographers, optics from the most recognized companies, nature tour companies and outdoor equipment. The Raptor Project will be on stage providing scheduled educational shows. Classroom presentations and field trips are arranged so that there is time to view beautiful art and craftwork and acquire a gift for someone, including yourself. Find out more about the area and where the birds will be seen.

Exhibit Center hours:

Wednesday, Jan. 20, 12:00pm-6:00pm

Thursday, Jan. 21, 12:00pm-6:00pm

Friday, Jan. 22, 12:00pm-6:00pm

Saturday, Jan. 23, 10:00am-6:00pm

Sunday, Jan. 24, Closed



Exhibit Center during the Festival. Photo by Vince Lamb

the 19th annual festival opening welcome reception

Wednesday, Jan. 20, 4:30pm-6:00pm; \$15

The reception on Wednesday, the opening day of the Festival is always a great time to see old friends who return to the festival each year as well as meet and make new friends of those who have found the festival for the first time.

We want each of you to enjoy today and every day you chose to spend with us for the 19th Annual Festival.

Scrumptious wild caught Florida shrimp from Wild Ocean Seafood Market with salad and something sweet to treat your palate will be served by Mr. Submarine & Salads. White and red wine is available. This evening we honor the Festival exhibitors. We encourage you to visit each exhibitor - many came many miles to display their products and they are ready to help you select optics, cameras, art or craft items and provide educational information about our natural world.

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Brevard Nature Alliance

afternoon socials

Thursday, Jan. 21, 5:00pm-6:00pm; \$15

Clay Taylor of Swarovski Optik cordially welcomes you to the afternoon social on Thursday. You are especially invited to stop by the booth located in Aisle 3. Swarovski Optik has an outstanding array of optics products to offer and to try out. Clay or his staff will be able to answer your questions as to the right Swarovski product for you. Food will be prepared and served by Mr. Submarine & Salads. White and red wine is available.

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SWAROVSKI
OPTIK

Friday, Jan. 22, 5:00pm-6:00pm; \$15

Jeff Bouton of Leica Sport Optics cordially welcomes you to the Afternoon Social on Friday. Jeff will introduce Noah Strycker who has just completed a World Big Year of Birding. Jeff and Noah invite you to visit them at the Leica booth located in Aisle 3. Leica has a number of products available to help make your bird and wildlife watching a great experience. Try out the new Leica Trinovid 42. Talk with Jeff, Noah and the Leica staff about other items in the fine line of Leica Optics products. Food will be prepared and served by Mr. Submarine & Salads. White and red wine is available.

Sponsored by



saturday is sliders night

Saturday, Jan. 23, 5:00pm-6:00pm; \$15

Enjoy a change of pace for your palate with a delicious slider feast with all the fixin's including Donna's best baked cookies served by Mr. Submarine & Salads. White and red wine is available.

Take advantage of one more opportunity to visit the Exhibitors for that special item you have been eyeing all week...



space coast birding & wildlife festival "gives back" to conservation

This year, \$5 of your registration fee will be donated to the Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida in cooperation with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. This contribution will help provide the necessary funding for FWC staff and well-trained volunteers to continue shorebird conservation activities such as:

- Installing signage and marking areas where birds are nesting.
- Providing on site education to the public and building owners about the conservation of Florida's beach nesting birds.
- Conducting coastal and rooftop monitoring of nest activity, and rescuing flightless young that fall off rooftops.

This volunteer-citizen initiative is part of the Florida Shorebird Alliance, a cooperative effort between FWC biologists, non-governmental agencies, land managers and the public, to monitor shorebird activity throughout Florida.

For information about the Florida Shorebird Alliance, visit the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission booths in Aisle 4 and attend one of the presentations: Florida's Beach-nesting Birds: Biology and Conservation Efforts.

Photos courtesy of FWCC

Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida, Inc. Florida Registration # CH8500: 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.



sunday social at fox lake park

Jan. 24, 1:30pm-5:00pm; Lunch & Keynote Presentation; \$40 per person, \$5 for children under 12

Directions from EFSC to 4400 Fox Lake Road, Titusville, FL: Drive south on US 1 approx. 2.4 miles. Turn right onto South Street and drive for about 3 1/4 miles. Turn right on Fox Lake Road and follow to the end at Fox Lake Park. Inside the park, follow the road along the shoreline around to the big pavilion.

Join the festival crew and your fellow birders and photographers for a relaxing afternoon in a beautiful natural setting. Fox Lake Park is adjacent to the 2,568-acre Fox Lake Sanctuary, a Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands acquisition. The main trailhead into the sanctuary is adjacent to the pavilion where our social takes place. Have you thought about getting a new camera or trying out a piece of equipment? Camera reps will be there with loaners and professional photographers will be on-hand to conduct camera walks.

Live music will be provided by the Porch Dogs, who play the kind of music that you love but rarely hear in Central Florida – the rootsy, good time, spicy-hot, accordion-driven music of Louisiana. Featuring a fiddle and squeeze box with guitar, bass and percussion, the Porch Dogs play Cajun Zydeco and a wide variety of other music. Exactly what are Porch Dogs? Alligators are sometimes referred to as “Porch Dogs” by Floridians who live near lakes and swamps because they sometimes crawl up and make themselves at home on people’s porches.

Laurilee Thompson, SCBWF founder, 5th generation Floridian and Indian River Lagoon advocate will give the final keynote presentation: Indian River Legacy. Her captivating talk will bring back memories of your own childhood trips to the coast and illustrate the importance of restoring our nation’s estuaries.

Dixie Crossroads Restaurant will serve peel-and-eat shrimp, BBQ pulled pork, rolls, corn on the cob, red potatoes, cole slaw and double fudge walnut brownies. Vegetarian lasagna will also be available. Florida Distributing Company will offer samples of world-class craft beers.

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silent auction

We cordially invite you to participate in our annual Silent Auction via donation of auction item(s), as well as bid on the items we have collected. Proceeds from the Silent Auction benefit the Festival.

Welcome Donors

Items should be new or well cared for (as in cases of rare nature books, artwork and the like). Please contact Dianne George at 321-626-9146 to arrange to donate items.

Welcome Bidders

The Silent Auction will run during the Festival from 12:00pm, Thursday, Jan. 21 to an undisclosed time on Saturday afternoon, Jan. 23.

Winners may pay for and pick up their items from 4:00pm to 6:00pm on Saturday, and from 9:00am to 11:00am on Sunday. Payment from winning bidders may be made by VISA, MasterCard, Discover Card, American Express, check (with copy of driver’s license) or cash.

No items will be mailed.

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.



Laurilee at 17 pulling crab traps



15th annual art show & competition

The Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival and the Titusville Art League are proud to present the 15th Annual Birding & Wildlife Art Show and Competition. A marvelous collection of arts and competitions will be on display at Eastern Florida State College (EFSC), Titusville Campus, in the Community Dining Room, from Thursday, Jan. 21 through Saturday, Jan. 23.

Competitors 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 more than \$1,600. Each entry into the art competition will cost \$15. All entries should be works completed within the last 24 months and express the natural environments and ecosystems of Florida.

A Poster Competition will be held for children, with all entries on display. Top prize for the winning poster is a \$50 gift certificate, with a special \$100 award given to the school art department of the winning poster. No entry fee is charged for children's posters. Size of entry should be half of a standard poster board.

Competition categories

- Photography
- 2-Dimensional art (including painting, mixed media, graphic arts and watercolors)
- 3-Dimensional art (including sculpture, clay art, wood, glass and fiber art)
- Children's Poster Competition

Prizes

Photography	2-Dimensional	3-Dimensional	Children's Posters
1st.....\$225	1st..... \$225	1st\$225	1st.....\$50
2nd.....\$125	2nd..... \$125	2nd\$125	2nd.....\$25
3rd\$75	3rd.....\$75	3rd\$75	3rd\$15
2 Merits\$25	2 Merits.....\$25	2 Merits.....\$25	3 Merits\$10

Rules

All artwork must be appropriate for viewing by all ages.

All work must be the original work of the submitting artist. No copyrighted work will be accepted unless submitting artist holds the copyright.

No copies, reproductions or kits will be accepted.

Each submission must be work that was completed within the last 24 months.

No submission may have been previously entered into a SCBWF Art Show & Competition.

No pieces for hanging shall be larger than 42 inches in width or height, including frame.

Framed entries with glass shall not exceed 20 inches by 24 inches. Larger works that require protection must use plexi-glass or similar material. Oversized pieces of glass are too fragile and too heavy for display panels.

All hanging work must be framed with the following exceptions: Stretched canvas work that has been gallery-wrapped and has no unfinished edges and wall hangings. Work painted on wood panels must have finished and/or painted edges.

All hanging work must be ready to hang with securely fastened screw eyes and braided picture wire. In the case of metal frames, the fasteners inserted in the frame with screws to which the wire is attached are acceptable. Saw tooth hangers will NOT be accepted. Wall hangings must be able to hang from a standard pegboard hook. ALL WORK THAT IS TO HANG MUST MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS.

All entries must remain on exhibit throughout the show.

Delivery, Submittal, & Set up

Entries must be submitted at the EFSC Community Dining Room between 2:00pm and 6:00pm, Wednesday, Jan. 20.

For ease of delivery and pick-up, please drive to the rear of the Community Dining Room and enter through the back door.

All artwork must be available for display from 12:00pm Thursday, Jan. 21 and 6:00pm Saturday, Jan. 23.

Judging will be held at 2:00pm Thursday, Jan. 21.

Artwork is to be picked up between 9:00am and Noon on Sunday, Jan. 24.

For more information about the 2016 Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival Art Show and Competition, visit the TAL website at www.titusvilleartleague.com or contact Candi Thorpe, First Vice President and Festival Art Show Coordinator, at candithor@aol.com or Barb Hoelscher, SCBWF Programs Director, at barb@brevardnaturealliance.org or call 321-268-5888.

how to get here

The festival will be located at Eastern Florida State College (EFSC) - Titusville Campus, 1311 N. US 1 from Jan. 20-24, 2016. Registration desk, classroom presentations, field trip staging, exhibits, silent auction, art show and food service can be found there.

If You Are Driving

Take Interstate 95 to Titusville.

- From the south, exit at SR406 (Exit 220). Go east to US 1. Go north on US 1 for 1.9 miles. EFSC is on the right, just north of the Parrish Medical Center.

- From the north, exit at SR46 (Exit 223). Go east to US 1. Go south on US 1 for 2.4 miles. EFSC will be on the left.

If You Are Flying

- From Orlando International Airport:

Go east on SR528 (Beachline/Toll Road) to I-95. Go north on I-95. Follow above driving directions coming from the south.

- From Orlando-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.

what to wear

January is typically Florida's coldest month, but temperatures can fluctuate wildly. Expect average temps to be in the 40s and 50s at night and the 60s and 70s in the daytime. Temperatures can dip into the 30s at night and never leave the 50s during the daytime after a strong cold front. Rain is very scarce in January, however, a cold front may be accompanied by a squall line. Plan to layer your clothing. It can be very cold at sunrise and then warm up nicely during the day. It could 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 offshore birding trip! More than likely the wind will blow and spray will fly. The Gymnasium can be chilly too. Bring a sweater or a jacket if you are an exhibitor.

classroom & field trip tips

- A long sleeved shirt or light jacket may make your classroom experience more enjoyable – all rooms are air-conditioned.

- The field trip staging area is in front of the Gymnasium. Bus trips depart from that area. Carpool groups meet there. You'll be directed to your bus location by the Transportation Monitors, who will be available for each departure. Departure times are firm - arrive 15 to 20 minutes early.

- Please bring sunglasses, sunscreen, a hat, insect repellent, and rain gear (just in case). Wear comfortable shoes/sneakers and shirts, and long pants (protection against insects and thorns) for field trips. Some field trips may be wet.

- Don't forget your camera, binoculars, or other equipment that will make your festival experience more memorable.

sponsors & partners

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

Eagle

Bird Watcher's Digest
Space Coast Office of Tourism

Dixie Crossroads Seafood Restaurant

Panther

American Birding Association

Swarovski Optik

Scrub Jay

Carl Zeiss Sport Optics
Florida Today

Florida Power & Light Company
Panasonic North America

Wildside Nature Tours

Pelican

Brevard Business News
Celestron
Coastal Angler Magazine
Farmton/Miami Corporation
Hunt's Photo & Video
Leica Sport Optics, USA
Merritt Island Wildlife Association
Princeton University Press
10,000 Birds
Victor Emanuel Nature Tours
Wells Fargo

Canaveral Port Authority
City of Titusville
Eagle Optics
Geomar Environmental Consultants
Kowa
Maven
Opticron
Rockjumper Worldwide Birding Adventures
Vanguard Sporting Optics
Waste Management

Red-cockaded Woodpecker

Ace Hardware - Titusville
Canopy Family

Birding Africa
Ron Jon Surf Shop

Partners

All Cities Expo Services, Inc.
Brevard Co. Environmentally Endangered Lands Program (Pine Island Archaeological Project, Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary, Ulamay Sanctuary, South Lake Conservation Area, the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, Barrier Island Sanctuary)
Brevard Co. Parks & Recreation
Brevard Co. Solid Waste Management-Recycling
Brevard Cultural Alliance
Brevard Zoo
Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber of Commerce
Clear Channel Outdoor
Eastern Florida State College
Fla. Department of Environmental Protection (T.M. Goodwin Marsh)
Fla. Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area, Salt Lake Wildlife Management Area)
Fla. State Parks (Sebastian Inlet State Park, St Sebastian River Buffer Preserve State Park)
Florida Trails Association
Forever Florida/EcoSafaris
Marine Science Center

Melbourne Regional Chamber of Commerce
NASA
North Brevard Heritage Foundation
National Park Service (Canaveral Nat'l Seashore)
Novatech Computers
Palm Bay Regional Chamber of Commerce
Savings Safari
Space Coast Audubon Society
St. Johns River Water Management District (Lee Tract-Charles H. Bronson State Forest, Seminole Ranch Conservation Area, Lake Monroe Conservation Area, Lake Jessup Conservation Area, Little-Big Econ State Forest, Lake Apopka)
The Nature Conservancy
Titusville Art League
Titusville Area Chamber of Commerce (Titusville Area Visitors Council)
Titusville YMCA
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Merritt Island Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, St. Johns Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Archie Carr Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Pelican Island Nat'l Wildlife Refuge)
VISIT FLORIDA

exhibitors

American Birding Association (Sponsor)
www.aba.org

Archaeologists for Autism
<http://www.archaeologistsforautism.org/>

Art by Amanda Brannon
www.AmandaBrannon.com

Bat Belfrys Inc.
http://floridabats.org/BH_Builders.htm

Bird Watcher's Digest (Sponsor)
www.birdwatchersdigest.com

Birderchicks, LLC
birderchicks@gmail.com

Birding Africa (Sponsor)
www.birdingafrica.com

Birding Ecotours
www.birdingecotours.co.za

Birds Caribbean
www.birdscaribbean.org

birdwithtom
www.birdwithtom.com

Briar Knots Wood Carving

Canaveral National Seashore
www.nps.gov/cana

Canon USA
www.usa.canon.com

Canopy Family (Sponsor)
www.canopytower.com

Carefree Birding
www.carefreebirding.com

Carl Zeiss Sports Optics (Sponsor)
www.zeiss.com/sports

Celestron (Sponsor)
www.celestron.com

Cheepers! Birding on a Budget
www.cheepersbirding.com

Chuber Pottery
www.facebook.com/ChuberPottery

Custom Gheenoe Boats
www.gheenoe.net

Eagle Optics (Sponsor)
www.eagleoptics.com

Escape to Nature Photography Workshops
www.escape tonaturephotography.com

Florida EcoSafaris at Forever Florida
www.floridaecosafaris.com

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
<http://myfwc.com/>

Florida Ornithological Society
www.fosbirds.org

Florida Shorebird Alliance
<http://flshorebirdalliance.org/>

Happy Bee Honey
www.happybeehoney.net

Hawke Sport Optics LLC
www.hawkeoptics.com

Holbrook Travel
www.holbrooktravel.com

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
www.hmco.com

Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute
www.hswri.org

Hunts Photo and Video (Sponsor)
www.huntsphotoandvideo.com

Kayaks by Bo
www.kayaksbybo.com

KOWA America (Sponsor)
www.kowa-usa.com

Lake Woodruff Wildlife Refuge
habichat@merrittislandwildlifeassociation.org

Leica Sport Optics (Sponsor)
www.en.leica-camera.com/sport_optics/

Little St. Simons Island
www.littlessi.com

Marcy Gray Design Studio
www.marcygray.com

Marine Resources Council
www.mrcirl.org

Maven (Sponsor)
www.mavenbuilt.com

Merritt Island Wildlife Assn. (Sponsor)
www.merrittislandwildlifeassociation.com

Mike Matthews Photography
www.mikephotography.com

Milton Heiberg Studios
www.miltonheiberg.com

Novagrade Digiscoping Adapters
https://novagrade.com

Opticron USA (Sponsor)
www.opticron.co.us

Panasonic North America (Sponsor)
www.panasonic.com

Peachtree Camera Repair
http://peachtreecamerarepair.com/

Phone Skope
www.phoneskope.com/birding/

Princeton University Press (Sponsor)
www.pup.princeton.edu

Rockjumper Worldwide Birding Adventures (Sponsor)
www.rockjumper.co.za

San Diego Bird Festival
http://www.sandiegoaudubon.org/index.php/events/bird-festival

Sony
http://www.sony.com

Space Coast Audubon
www.spacecoastaudubon.org

Spectrum Birding, LLC

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www.swarovskioptik.at

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www.10000birds.com

The Lodge at Pico Bonito
www.picobonito.com

Tranquilo Bay Eco Adventure Lodge
www.tranquilobay.com

United States Air Force - CCAFS/PAFB

Vanguard USA, Inc. (Sponsor)
www.vanguard.com

Ventures Birding Tours
www.birdventures.com

Victor Emanuel Nature Tours (Sponsor)
www.ventbird.com

Wildside Nature Tours (Sponsor)
www.wildsidenaturetours.com

Dr. Steven W. Kress

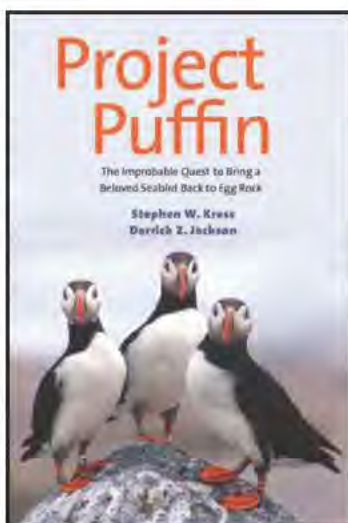
Restoring Endangered Seabirds: Lessons from Puffins and Terns

Jan. 20, 6:15pm-7:30pm; AUD; Limited to 150 registrants; \$20

Humans have devastated seabird colonies in many parts of the world by excessive hunting for food and feathers and by introducing mammals such as cats and rats to otherwise secure nesting islands.

Worldwide, about one third of all seabird species are now globally threatened because of effects of invasive predatory mammals, marine pollution, coastal development and effects of global warming. Although seabird nesting islands seem safe due to their remoteness, they are intimately connected to human activities. For example, Maine seabird nesting islands are affected by large populations of Herring and Great Black-backed Gulls that benefit from garbage and fisheries waste practices hundreds of miles from nesting islands. And ironically, other wildlife restoration success stories such as the recovery of Bald Eagles and Peregrine Falcons now threaten rare Maine seabirds such as Great Cormorants and Roseate Terns.

Above right: Arctic Tern in Flight.
Middle right: Roseate Tern.
Below right: Puffin on the deep blue sea.
Below left: Razorbills on a rock - mutual gape.
Photos by Dr. Steven W. Kress.
Portrait photo by Derrick Jackson.



New threats have emerged, as old threats are managed. Climate change, reduced ocean productivity and new species of fish in the puffin's diet are new concerns to managing restored puffin colonies in Maine.

Dr. Stephen W. Kress, Director of National Audubon Society's Seabird Restoration Program, will review how techniques developed on Maine islands have led to the restoration of puffins and terns to historic nesting islands in the Gulf of Maine. Dr. Kress will also discuss how techniques developed in Maine are helping seabirds worldwide. His



lecture includes reviews of several case studies in seabird restoration including restoration of Common Murres in California to relocation of Short-tailed Albatross off of an active volcano in Japan and efforts to save the endangered Bermuda Petrel from rising oceans and increased frequency of hurricanes.

Dr. Kress is Vice-President for Bird Conservation for the National Audubon Society, Director of the Audubon Seabird Restoration Program and Director of the Hog Island Audubon Camp. His career has focused on developing techniques for managing colonial nesting seabirds. In this role, he manages 13 important seabird nesting islands in Maine that are home to more than 42,000 seabirds of 27 species. Hundreds of professional seabird biologists can trace their first interest in seabirds to Dr. Kress's program. Methods first developed in Maine such as chick translocations and social attraction are now standard practice



worldwide. Dr. Kress received his Ph.D. from Cornell University and his Master's and undergraduate degrees from Ohio State University. He is co-author of his autobiography, *Project Puffin: The Improbable Quest to Bring a Beloved Seabird Back to Egg Rock* and many other books on birding and bird attracting.

The Early Show with Giff Beaton

An Introduction to Dragonflies and Damselflies

Jan. 21, 6:15pm-7:30pm; AUD; Limited to 150 registrants; \$15

Visit any pond on a summer day and the air will be alive with dragonflies and damselflies - shimmering aerobatic daredevils that dart above the water and even into nearby fields and woodlands. This lavishly illustrated talk will introduce you to the fascinating world of the dragonflies and damselflies (odonates). Starting with life cycle information including their interesting breeding biology to the basics of identification of the various families, this talk will amaze and inspire you to learn more about these incredible insects.

Giff Beaton has eagerly studied nature for over 40 years. For the past 25 years, he has led a variety of bird, nature and history tours and given a diverse range of nature presentations. He is the author of *Birding Georgia*, *Birds of Kennesaw Mountain*, *Dragonflies and Damselflies of Georgia and the Southeast*, co-author of *The Breeding Bird Atlas of Georgia and Birds of Georgia*, and the senior author and editor of the *Annotated Checklist of Georgia Birds*. He enthusiastically follows warbler migration, especially at Kennesaw Mountain, with a main focus on photographing birds and insects in their natural habitats. Concentrating on studying and photographing dragonflies, robber flies, tiger beetles, and jumping spiders, he is often found far afield searching

for these curious and somewhat elusive creatures. He and his wife Allie live in Marietta, GA, with their two sons, and he has been a pilot for Delta Air Lines for over 25 years.

L to top to bottom: Blackwater Clubtail. Eastern Ringtail. Seaside Dragonlet.
Bottom L to R: Selfie. Red-veined Pennant. Golden-winged Skimmer. Variable Dancer.
Center: Roseate Skimmer.
Photos by Giff Beaton.



The Late Show with James Currie

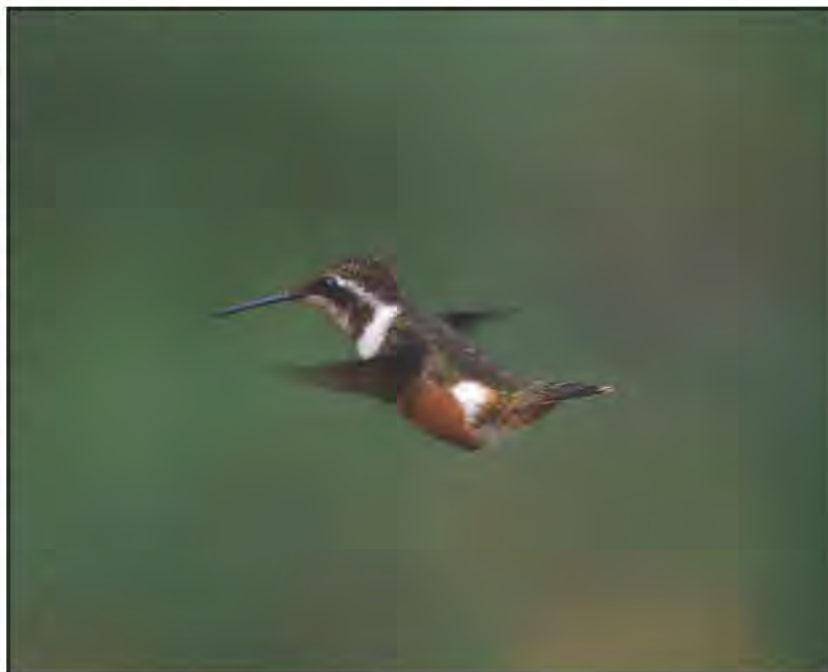
Birding the World with James Currie - A Video Journey

Jan. 21, 7:45pm-8:45pm; AUD; Limited to 150 registrants; \$15

Join James as he takes you around the world and shows you video of some of the craziest birds in the world. From Mexico to Africa to South America to Israel to Australia this action-packed talk and video presentation will open your eyes to the magnificent world of birds. See the first-ever video footage of the Desert Tawny Owl, witness behind-the-scenes explanations and laugh at the lighter side of birding TV. Please note that this will be an entirely new presentation with video clips from recent episodes. James will also have copies of his acclaimed book *When Eagles Roar* available for sale and signing after the talk. *When Eagles Roar* was recently listed as the best birding book of 2014 by the Birder's Library and by The Guardian as one of the top 10 nature books of 2014.

A life-long wildlife enthusiast and native of South Africa, James Currie is fast becoming one of the most recognizable faces in birding and wildlife in North America. James hosts the popular birding TV show, "Nikon's Birding Adventures," now in its 7th season and currently airing on Discovery Channel's Destination America. He also hosted the popular action-birding show "Aerial Assassins" on National Geographic WILD, aired in the United States and worldwide in 2012 and appeared as himself in the reality birding show, "Twitchers" that aired on the National Geographic Channel in 2014. He has led professional wildlife and birding tours for over 15 years and his passion for birding, adventure and remote cultures has taken him to nearly every corner of the globe. James filmed for, consulted for and provided footage for the 2011 Hollywood birding movie, "The Big Year", starring Steve Martin, Jack Black and Owen Wilson. James has contributed to several publications, including the acclaimed *Southern African Birdfinder* and *Wildwatch* and his first book, *When Eagles Roar* was published in October 2014. In late 2007, he immigrated to the United States with his American wife and three kids and he currently resides in West Palm Beach, Florida.

From top to bottom: James Currie and a meerkat in Botswana. Photo by Adrian Binns. Hummingbird. Tufted Jay in Mexico. Photos by James Currie. Below: James Currie birding in the high Andes of Ecuador. Photo by Jeff Aderman.



Kevin Karlson & Dale Rosselet

Birding by Impression: A Different Approach to Knowing and Identifying Birds

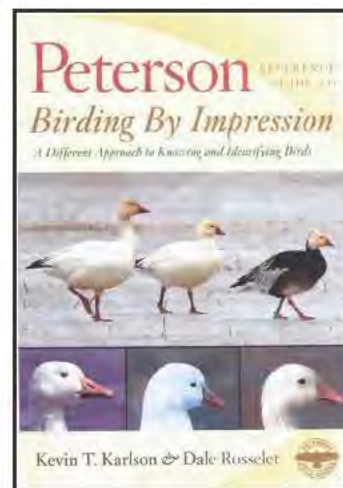
Jan. 22, 6:15pm-7:30pm; AUD; Limited to 150 registrants; \$20

Kevin and Dale have been married for 37 years and completed this book after 7 years of challenging work with their marriage still intact. Dale is vice president for education for New Jersey Audubon and oversees the statewide public and school-based education programs as well as the organization's center operations. Kevin is an accomplished birder, professional tour leader and wildlife photographer who published several books, four laminated bird guides, and many bird and nature related articles for magazines and journals over the last 25 years.

Their new book of the same title as the program was published in the Roger Tory Peterson Reference Series in May, 2015, and it offers a refreshingly different approach to bird ID that incorporates each person's personal assessments of a bird's physical features and

movements prior to applying traditional ID details of plumage and bare parts color. This approach is similar to the one used in Kevin's bestselling book *The Shorebird Guide* (2006), but instead of a field guide, it includes information about all bird families and instructions on how you can apply this approach. Many digital composite photos of similar species appear as quizzes that the reader can solve using the ID information provided.

This keynote address includes numerous photos from the book, and shares the Birding by Impression approach in the words of the two authors. Come and find out how super birders identify birds with just a quick glance, and how you can accomplish the same results while having fun doing it, which is the whole purpose of birding.



R: Comparison of Long-eared and Great Horned Owls.

Below L: Profile of common raptor shapes with silhouettes.

Below R: Comparison of all four small plovers.

Photos by Kevin Karlson



Steve N. G. Howell

Is There Life Offshore? (Is there Life on Mars?)

Jan. 23, 6:15pm-7:30pm; AUD; Limited to 150 registrants; \$20

The ocean is the largest wilderness in North America. It's the cradle for the weather systems that shape our climate here on land. Yet most people have never been more than a mile or two offshore, and millions of people have never even seen the sea. To them the ocean is a mystery, and so it captures the imagination, just like outer space – from sea monsters to the Bermuda Triangle. It might as well be Mars. In this talk, Steve poses (and hopefully answers!) the questions: What is the ocean? How do you get there? And how might you identify what you see?

Steve N. G. Howell is an international bird tour leader with WINGS, a member of the Leica birding team, and a widely published author. The common thread to his life is that birding should be fun, and he has been watching birds for as long as he can remember - of course, this may simply mean that his memory is not very good...

Originally from Wales, in the United Kingdom, Steve visited Mexico in the 1980s and became captivated by its birdlife - compare seeing over 200 species in sunny Mexico in 12 hours with 200 species in rainy Wales in 12 years! He recently celebrated 30 years of birding and leading tours in Mexico, a truly magical country

full of amazing birds. Steve is also a world-renowned expert on seabirds, having spent four years of his life at sea and encountering over 95% of the world's tubenoses.

Steve has authored several books, including the landmark *Peterson Reference Guide to Molt in North American Birds* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt), *Petrels, Albatrosses, and Storm-Petrels of North America* (Princeton University Press), *The Amazing World of Flyingfish* (Princeton) and, together with Will Russell and Ian Lewington, the widely acclaimed *Rare Birds of North America* (Princeton). Most recently, with Brian Sullivan, Steve co-authored the popular *Offshore Sea Life ID Guides* (West Coast and East Coast, both Princeton). Besides birding and writing, Steve's interests include flyingfish, chocolate, and tequila, and he has worked with young birders for some 15 years - an exhausting but very worthwhile cause.



L top to bottom: Black-capped Petrel. Steve (left) with co-author Brian Sullivan and a test copy of their recently published *Offshore Sea Life ID Guide: West Coast*. Monterey Bay, California, July 2015. Photo courtesy of Steve N. G. Howell. Steve in Vanuatu, having just seen the enigmatic Vanuatu Petrel, April 2014. Photo courtesy of Steve N. G. Howell. R top to bottom: Steve N. G. Howell. Photo by Wendy Willis. Portuguese Man-O-War. Photo by Steve N. G. Howell. Steve learning from young birders at the spring 2015 Point Reyes Birding and Nature Festival. Photo by Morgan Patton. Center: White-tailed Tropicbird. Photo by Steve N. G. Howell



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.

In order to keep the Festival as cost efficient as possible, some field trips will be established as car pools instead of utilizing hired transportation services.

Unless otherwise noted, all trips depart from the traffic circle in front of the Gymnasium at Eastern Florida State College, Titusville Campus.

Due to the importance of scheduled arrivals at field trip sites, as well as schedules for the balance of the day, all vehicles will leave promptly when indicated. Please arrive 15 minutes early and board the bus at departure time.

Water is available at the Registration Desk.

PLEASE NOTE: Field trips by bus are designed so that each participant may take full advantage of the trip experience as well as meeting time expectations. Meeting the trip at the site is NOT allowed.

A Drive at Blue Heron Wetlands

Jan. 23, 7:30am-10:30am; Limit 20 Registrants; \$25

Lora Losi & Matt Heyden (Space Coast Audubon) with Louise Zemaitis (Victor Emanuel Nature Tours)

Meet at 7:20am at the south parking area of Cracker Barrel Restaurant near I-95 exit 215. Be prepared to carpool.

Bring binoculars, water, cellphone, camera, light rain gear and scope if desired.

Explore the engineered wetlands of Blue Heron, an outstanding birding site and magnet for wildlife. This is a 3-mile driving adventure on the gravel road that surrounds the wetlands. Be prepared to pull completely off the road and exit your vehicle at intervals in order to gain better viewing and to use your scope. American Bittern, Purple Gallinule, Limpkin, Sandhill Crane, Roseate Spoonbill, Black-crowned and Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, Black-necked Stilt, Gadwall, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Bobolink, Northern Harrier, Marsh Wren, Red Shouldered Hawk, and Gull-billed Tern are just a few of over 100 species sighted at Blue Heron. Birders may also see alligators.

A Walk at Blue Heron Wetlands

Jan. 20 & 24; 7:30am-10:30am; Limit 20 Registrants; \$25

Lora Losi and Matt Heyden (Space Coast Audubon), and Selena Kiser (Wildlife Biologist); Jan. 24 with Cindy Beckman (Cheepers! Birding on a Budget)

Meet at 7:20am at the south parking area of Cracker Barrel Restaurant near I-95 exit 215.

Bring binoculars, water, cell phone, camera, light rain gear and scope, if desired.

Explore the engineered wetlands of Blue Heron, an outstanding birding site and magnet for wildlife. This is a 3-mile walk on the gravel road that surrounds the wetlands. The pace will be leisurely in order to fully appreciate the birds you will see. American Bittern, Purple Gallinule, Limpkin, Sandhill Crane, Roseate Spoonbill, Black-crowned and Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, Black-necked Stilt, Gadwall, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Bobolink, Northern Harrier, Marsh Wren, Red Shouldered Hawk, and Gull-billed Tern are just a few of well over 100 bird species sighted at Blue Heron. Birders may also see alligators.

Advanced Shorebirds by Impression Outdoor ID Workshop, with Birding by Impression Tips for Other Birds

Jan. 22, 8:00am-12:00pm; Limit 30 Registrants; \$45

Kevin Karlson & Dale Rosselet with Ray VanBuskirk (Birding Research & Nature Tours) & Michael Brothers (Marine Science Center)

Meet at the Parrish Park Boat Ramp parking lot, north side.

This interactive outdoor workshop shares a different approach to field identification that Kevin and his co-author and wife call *Birding by*

Impression, A Different Approach to Knowing and Identifying Birds, which is the title of their new book in the Roger Tory Peterson Reference Series. Shorebirds are the focus of this workshop, and the leaders will encourage participants to concentrate initially on basic impressions of relative size, body shape, structural features and behavior to form an accurate mental picture of every bird seen in the field. While the focus of this workshop is similar to the one for beginners, we will discuss ID features that are more advanced in nature, and not spend much time discussing basic ID criteria of common shorebirds. Test your birding and observation skills by attending this workshop, and learn a different way of knowing and identifying birds of all species.

Afternoon Hayride

Jan. 23, 2:00pm-5:30pm; Limit 15 Registrants; \$20

Stan Howarter (MINWR Wildlife Biologist) and Ned Steele (Merritt Island Wildlife Association)

Meet at Black Point Wildlife Drive on Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. Park on the grass along the road – make sure your car is off the road. Bring water and snacks. Dress warmly!

Watch the afternoon bird show from an ideal vantage point! Take a slow ride through a Florida paradise around Black Point Wildlife Drive. There's no better way to view so many birds!

Beach Birds Intro & Field Trip

Jan. 23, 8:30am-10:00am Classroom Intro in Rm. 119, then 11:00-5:00pm Field Trip; Limit 32 Registrants; \$50



Least Tern in flight. Photo by Maxis Gamez.

noah strycker

Adam Kent (Florida Ornithological Society) and Gina Kent (Avian Research & Conservation Institute) with Michael Brothers (Marine Science Center), Amar Ayyash (Blogger/Speaker) and Sarah Linney (Space Coast Audubon)

After classroom intro in Rm. 119, drive to Smyrna Dunes Park for field trip. Directions: From EFSC turn right onto US 1 and travel north for about 31 miles. In the town of New Smyrna Beach, take a right on SR 44 toward New Smyrna Beach. After crossing the second bridge, turn left onto S. Peninsula Ave. and travel 2.6 miles to the park at the end of the road.

Please eat lunch or pick something up to eat at the park. No food will be provided. Bring water.

Bring cash for the entrance fee (\$5/car, up to 8 people).

You see them all the time - running from the surf, perched on pilings and soaring over the water. If you think they are nondescript grayish variations on the same theme, you are 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 our fascinating beach birds.

The field trip session begins near low tide. Participants will take a pontoon boat 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. 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 jaegers. There is always a possibility of finding rarities such as a Glaucous or Iceland Gull. Twenty species of shorebirds are probable here, including American Oystercatchers, Piping and Wilson's Plovers, Purple Sandpipers and Red Knots.

Beginning Birding Intro & Field Trip at MINWR

Jan. 21, 8:00am-12:00pm; Limit 40 Registrants; Free

Jan. 23, 12:30pm-4:30pm; Limit 40 Registrants; Free

Nancy Corona (MINWR Education Specialist) and Betty Salter (MINWR Volunteer); Jan. 21 with Dave Goodwin and David Hartgrove (Florida Nature Tours), Bill Stewart (American Birding Association), and Chip Clouse (Nature Optics LLC); Jan. 23 with Angel & Mariel Abreu (Nature is Awesome Tours), and George Armistead (American Birding Association)

Meet at Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. Intro is followed by a field trip by carpool to Black Point Wildlife Drive.

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 and Betty will cover field guides and other literature. They 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. They will also give an overview of optical equipment and how to properly use it. A free field trip to Black Point Wildlife Drive will follow the classroom session so you can get right out in the field and put your new knowledge to work.

Noah Strycker is a young enthusiastic birder from Oregon, and a fantastic writer who is presently on the adventure of a lifetime! As a teen, he won the Leica / American Birding Association's Young Birder of the Year competition and, for many years following, penned a featured column in *WildBird* magazine under the nickname "BirdBoy." He has long since outgrown that nickname, and currently works as an Associate Editor of the American Birding Association's *Birding* magazine. His prolific writing portfolio contains over 75 other articles for various birding and wildlife magazines and he has written two books as well: *The Thing with Feathers* and *Among Penguins*. He now holds claim to seeing more species in a single year than any other human being... a lot more!

Since the stroke of midnight on January 1st, 2015, Noah has been on an amazing journey, carrying him to every continent in search of birds. His personal stated goal was to see over 5,000 species of birds in a single year, but in reality he views this as the opportunity of a lifetime and the numbers are a means to an end. He carries with him only a small backpack which contains everything he needs for an adventure of this sort: his Leica binoculars, spotting scope, tripod, and camera, a laptop, some personal items and some clothes. His amazing journey is chronicled on the blog "*Birding Without Borders*" hosted on the National Audubon Society website: <http://www.audubon.org/noah> Noah began in Antarctica and then zigzagged north through South America, Central America, and finally reached the United States in May. He jumped across to Europe and then birded his way down the west coast of Africa and back up the east coast to United Arab Emirates, India, Myanmar, China, Taiwan, and to the Philippines by October 20th, 2015 Looking forward from here Noah will visit: Thailand, Malaysia, Borneo, Sulawesi, Papua New Guinea, Australia, & New Zealand.

Milestones:

- #1,000 Pied-crested Tit-Tyrant, Peru, February 14th
- #2,000 Shining Honeycreeper, Panama, April 14th
- #2,500 Common Poorwill, Mexico, May 16th
- #3,000 Tawny Pipit, Turkey, June 17th
- #4,000 Mountain Gray Woodpecker, Tanzania, August 17
- #4,342 a pair of Sri Lanka Frogmouths, India, September 16

New World Big Year Record!

Noah has seen more bird species in 9.5 months than any one else has in a full year! As of October 20th, Noah was in the Philippines with 4,911 species rapidly approaching his goal of 5,000. To wrap up his effort, Noah will return to South Africa and on and try to break the World Big Day species record on the final day of 2015! Follow his continuing efforts through 2015 at his "*Birding Without Borders*" blog, on eBird, and look for updates on the Leica Birding and Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival social media pages.

Sponsored by



Noah's efforts are proudly supported by Leica Sport Optics and in January 2015, Noah will join the Leica birding crew working their booth at the Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival! Swing by the booth in the Gymnasium to meet Noah, and get your books signed at scheduled book signings in the Leica booth.



Current ABA / Leica Young Birder of the Year winner, 12-year-old Dessi Sieburth, catches up with past winner Noah Strycker during his worldwide Big Year effort on a boat in Oregon.

Beginning Birding Walk at the Chain of Lakes

Jan. 20 & 22, 1:00pm-3:00pm; Limit 10 Registrants; Free

Selena Kiser (Wildlife Biologist)

Meet outside in front of the EFSC Gym. We'll go around the back of the building to the park. Walking will be easy, with a climb up a 5-story observation tower (optional for those who can't).

If you're a beginning birder and you feel a little hesitant to join one of the larger field trips, or you aren't sure about which one might best suit you, look no further! Selena, an avid birder and wildlife biologist, is ready to escort you on a short adventure, adjacent to the Festival grounds. She will take you on a two-hour jaunt through Chain of Lakes Park, a lovely Brevard County park wedged between the hospital and college grounds and the Indian River Lagoon. Since this trip focuses on beginners, the journey starts with a brief review of birdwatching basics, including how to use binoculars and identify bird groups that we are likely to find. Then we'll follow the paved paths weaving through the park, pausing to look at wintering waterfowl, wading birds, and songbirds along the way. There is an observation tower that we'll climb to get a glorious view of the Indian River, including chance encounters of flying raptors at eye level (this is the most strenuous portion of the walk). We'll take our time with viewing birds, so you can learn how to identify them. That includes keeping your ears open! If you have binoculars, great! If not, there will be loaners. There is no pre-registration for this event, so it's first come, first served. Please sign up at the Festival registration desk. Selina will also be available for impromptu groups if there is interest. Check at the registration desk.

Beginning Bird Walk at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary

Jan. 23, 8:00am-10:00am; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Joe Swingle (EEL Program Naturalist) & Angel & Mariel Abreu (Nature is Awesome Tours)

Meet at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary: 444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL. From EFSC drive south on US 1 for 8.3 miles. Turn right on SR 405/Columbia Blvd. Entrance on right approx. 1/2 mile. Wear closed toed shoes. Bring water.

Birdwatching is one of North America's fastest growing recreational sports - but did you know that a majority of people who enjoy birdwatching are beginners? This program is for anyone age eight to eighty who considers him or herself a 'hatchling' birdwatcher. We will begin with a brief indoor presentation, introducing a few easy birding techniques. Next, we'll leave the 'nest' and head outside for some

binocular skills practice (bring yours or use ours). Then take your new skills for a test flight as we hike for 45 minutes on the trails in search of a few birds in the EFS.

Bird Banding Field Trip at Hal Scott Preserve

Jan. 22 & 23, 7:15am-11:30am; Limit 18 Registrants; \$45

Jim Cox (Tall Timbers Research Station), Katie NeSmith (Florida Natural Areas Inventory), Lorne Malo (Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission); Jan. 22 with Michael Hiltchey (Birding Research & Nature Tours); Jan. 23 with Cindy Beckman (Cheepers! Birding on a Budget)

Meet at the EFSC bus circle to board the bus.

Ever want to see some of those little brown jobs known as sparrows up close? Jim Cox, Director of the Stoddard Bird Lab at Tall Timbers Research Station & Land Conservancy, will be leading a couple of morning field trips where the goal will be banding Henslow's, Bachman's, and Grasshopper Sparrows (and any other sparrows we encounter). Florida supports over a dozen different species of sparrows in winter, and there's no better way to appreciate the subtle colors that abound than to watch as sparrows are carefully extracted from mist nets, banded, and released. The little brown jobs are not just brown; they're suffused with shifting shades of saffron, sage, pewter, bronze, rust, and gold. Netting of Brown-headed Nuthatches will also be attempted to assist with a special genetic assessment underway in Central Florida. Previous work shows sharp genetic variation in an area stretching from Orlando to Tampa to Ft. Myers to Cocoa Beach. We'll be collecting additional DNA from a population not yet sampled as part of this study. Be prepared for wet feet and slacks thanks to the early morning dew.

Birding by Ear

Jan. 21, 7:30am-9:30am; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Lora Losi and Matt Heyden (Space Coast Audubon)

Meet at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary: 444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL. From EFSC drive south on US 1 for 8.3 miles. Turn right on SR 405/Columbia Blvd. Entrance on right approx. 1/2 mile.

Wear closed toed shoes. Bring water and binoculars.

Using bird sounds is an important tool for all birders, and can make you seem clairvoyant! Explore how to get started with various techniques, hints and technologies to help you learn. See how doing a little preliminary work and using your ears before your eyes and binoculars can enhance your birding experience. Following a classroom presentation, we will practice our new powers of observation with a walk through the forest.

Birding by Ear and Habitat

Jan. 23 & 24, 6:30am-12:30pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$45

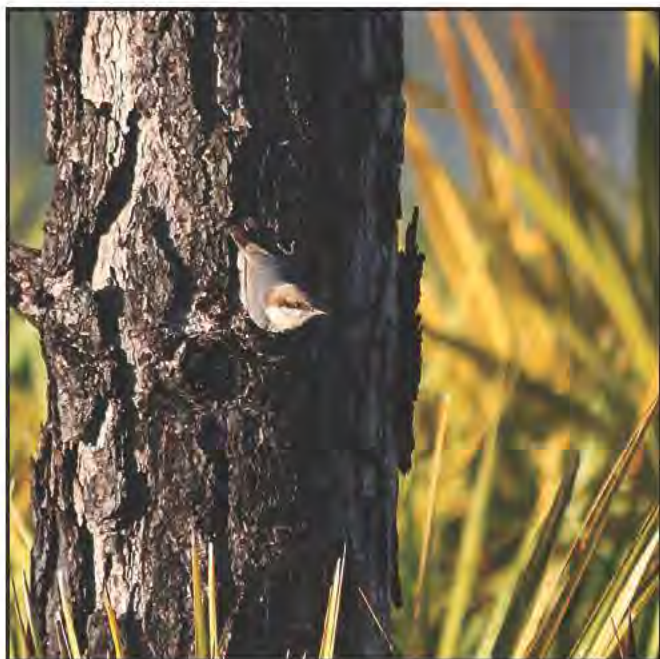
Paddy Cunningham (Birding Adventures)

Meet at the parking lot of the Oak Hammock Trail, 1/2 mile east of the MINWR Visitor Center.

Birding by Ear and Habitat is a great way to increase your ability to identify birds. It is an essential birding skill and necessary to speed up locating and identifying a bird. Birding by habitat helps you to determine what birds you are likely to see in an area. Using a variety of techniques in the field, you will learn how to recognize various species of birds through a process of elimination by critically focusing on what likely the bird isn't and is. The field trip will begin before daylight in an oak hammock as we search for warblers and owls while 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. During a short field break



Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, Florida. Photo by Steve Ingraham.



Brown-headed Nuthatch. Photo by DeeAnn Jennings Kiesel.

numerous handouts will be distributed and discussed. 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 has been a naturalist in South Florida for more than thirty years. Her motto is "You learn the ID," and she excels in teaching birding skills in a non-intimidating field experience.

Birding by Impression with Kevin Karlson, co-author of *Birding by Impression: A Different Approach to Knowing and Identifying Birds*

Jan. 20, 8:00am-12:00pm; Limit 15 Registrants; \$45

Kevin Karlson with Angel & Mariel Abreu (Nature is Awesome Tours)

Meet at the Parrish Park parking lot on the east side of the Titusville Bridge at 8:00am.

Join Kevin, Angel and Mariel for a relaxed birding experience where the leaders will share a different approach to birding as highlighted in Kevin and Dale Rosselet's new book in the Roger Tory Peterson Reference Series called *Birding by Impression: A Different Approach to Knowing and Identifying Birds*. This trip will only accept 15 participants so that you can get to know the leaders and share a different approach to bird ID that concentrates initially on unchangeable physical features and behavior of each bird species before using traditional field marks to fine tune your ID. Come and experience a different way of identifying and looking at birds, and have a lot of fun sharing your experiences with the other participants. Kevin will sign copies of the new book during this trip.

Birding by Impression with Kevin Karlson and Dale Rosselet: Authors of *Birding by Impression: A Different Approach to Knowing and Identifying Birds*

Jan. 24, 8:00am-12:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; \$45

Kevin Karlson & Dale Rosselet with Angel & Mariel Abreu (Nature is Awesome Tours)

Meet in the traffic circle in front of the Gym at 8:00am.

Join Kevin, Dale, Angel and Mariel for a relaxed birding experience to one of the week's most productive birding locations within a short drive

of the college. Kevin will choose the location and we will car pool to our birding destination, where the leaders will share a different approach to birding as highlighted in Kevin and Dale's new book in the Roger Tory Peterson Reference Series called *Birding by Impression: A Different Approach to Knowing and Identifying Birds*. This trip will accept only 20 participants so that you can get to know the leaders and share a different approach to bird ID that concentrates initially on unchangeable physical features and behavior of each bird species before using traditional field marks to fine tune your ID. Come and experience a different way of identifying and looking at birds. Kevin and Dale will sign copies of their new book during this trip.

Central Florida Specialties

Jan. 22 & 23, 5:00am-4:00pm; Limit 35 Registrants; \$85

Meet at EFSC bus circle to board bus. Includes box lunch.

Dave Goodwin (Florida Nature Tours) and Jim Eager (Obsessive Compulsive Birding); Jan. 22 with Nancy McAllister (Wildside Nature Tours), David Simpson (Birding with David Simpson), and Corey Finger (10,000 Birds); Jan. 23 with Jim Danzenbaker, Steve Ritt (Wildside Nature Tours), and Wes Biggs (Florida Nature Tours)

This field trip will start at Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area in the early morning hours. Targets will be Red-cockaded Woodpeckers and other pineland species, including Bachman's Sparrow, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Pine Warbler and Eastern Bluebird. Next stop is Lake Marian Marina to look for Limpkins, night-herons and wintering Bonaparte's Gulls. We will then take a short drive to Peavine Road to look for the King Rails that were found breeding there this past summer. The next destination is Joe Overstreet Ranch to search for Red-headed Woodpeckers and Burrowing Owls that breed there. Along the road through the ranch Eastern Meadowlarks, Savannah Sparrows, Sandhill Cranes, Wild Turkeys, American Kestrels and other raptors may be seen. Crested Caracaras and Bald Eagles nest in this area – you never know when they will show themselves. At the end of Joe Overstreet Road is Joe Overstreet Landing on beautiful Lake Kissimmee. Here we'll look for Snail Kites, Limpkins and Purple Gallinules in addition to the usual egrets, herons, Glossy and White Ibis, cormorants, Anhingas, grackles and inland gulls and terns. If no Snail Kites or Limpkins are seen, there will be a stop at Lakeshore Park on East Lake Tohopekaliga in St. Cloud. Chapman's Double C Bar Ranch is just north of Joe Overstreet Road. There a Whooping Crane is often found with Sandhill Cranes. Last stop on the way back to the college will be at the Cruickshank Sanctuary in Rockledge for Florida's only endemic bird, the Florida Scrub-jay.

Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary Walk

Jan. 21, 9:00am-12:00pm; Limit 24 Registrants; Free

Jay Barnhart and Jim Stahl (Florida Native Plant Society and Friends of the Enchanted Forest), and Cindy Beckman (Cheepers! Birding on a Budget)

Meet at Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary entrance: 4900 Melissa Drive, Titusville, FL. From Exit 215 on I-95 take SR50 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 US 1 go west 0.7 miles on SR50. Turn left on Key Largo Dr.

Wear comfortable closed toed shoes. Bring water.

Join avid mushroom hobbyist Jay and retired biologist Jim for a walk through the beautiful scrub of real Florida. This Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) 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, Eastern Indigo Snake, Gopher Tortoise and Dicerandra Thincicola, a rare scrub mint known only to occur in the northern region of Brevard County.

eBird Walk at Blue Heron Wetlands

Jan. 23, 6:45am-11:00am; Limit 20 Registrants; \$25

Jason Guerard (Florida Ornithological Society)

Meet in the north parking lot of the IHOP restaurant, 3755 Cheney Hwy., Titusville, near the intersection of SR50 and I-95 at 6:45am.

Wear closed-toed comfortable walking shoes.

You may want to attend the companion classroom presentation, also on Jan. 23, 1:00pm-2:30pm, in the Conference Room at the Fairfield Inn Marriott in Titusville.

If you want to learn about eBird, you will never have a better chance. eBird has grown in popularity in recent years due to its ever continuing ease of use for birders of all skill levels. The advantageous part of the eBird database is that it allows the user to engage at whatever extent desired. No other database at the birder's disposal allows us to use the hobby we enjoy so much to help make such a significant impact to science and conservation by simply watching and counting birds. But, there are considerations to be made before heading in to the field to count birds for entry into eBird. On this leisurely three-mile walk, we will explore the Blue Heron Wetlands in effort to build a list of observations that will be used in the classroom portion, where the data entry and submission process will be discussed. During the trip we will discuss the three major observation/protocol types, when to choose which and effort levels that eBird asks the user to record, how to approach counting birds in the field and why it is important to actually count and "record all species". We will discuss list-keeping mobile applications that aid in keeping your list as accurate as possible. Most importantly, as eBird states it, learn how to make your "checklist more meaningful".

Evening Owl Prowl at Sams House

Jan. 23, 6:30pm-8:30pm; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Patty Rendon (Naturalist, EEL Central Region) & Susan Boorse



Vermiculated Screech Owls. Photo by Kevin Loughlin.

(Environmental Programs, Brevard Co. Parks & Recreation)

Meet at Sams House Education Center: 6195 North Tropical Trail, Merritt Island, FL. From EFSC, travel south on US 1 for 8.3 miles. Go east on SR 405 for 6.1 miles. Turn right on Space Commerce Way and go 2.7 miles. Turn right on N. Courtenay Pkwy (SR3) and travel 3.2 miles. Turn right on N. Tropical Trail and go 0.5 mile. Sam's House will be on the right.

Please wear appropriate clothing and closed-toed shoes. Bring a flashlight and insect repellent.

This program will be an easy hike (in darkness) of approximately 1 mile. Discover the wonders of our night time hunters and flyers, the owls. We will begin by meeting a Great Horned Owl and a Screech Owl who are the rehabilitation wards of Susan Boorse. After that our expedition will set off on a nocturnal observation journey in search of resident Barred Owls and other creatures of the night. We will listen for the distinctive call of the Barred Owl, and others, while searching the overhead branches for signs of movement, flight and nighttime activity. In this rare opportunity to explore the Sams House trails after dark, we are entering the world of those who habitually live in the dark.

Florida Scrub-Jay & Scrub Fire Ecology

Jan. 22 & 23, 8:30am-12:30pm; Limit 40 Registrants; Free

David Breininger, PhD & Paul Schmalzer, PhD (Kennedy Space Center Ecological Program)

Meet at Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. Intro followed by field trip. Bring water.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS A MUST! Because of security requirements at Kennedy Space Center, we are restricted to offering this trip to US citizens only. All persons registering to attend this event must provide a valid driver's license at the time of registration.

The Florida Scrub-Jay, fascinating from both biological and conservation perspectives, 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. Florida's desert-like prehistoric sand ridges are home to wondrous animals such as Gopher Tortoises, Eastern Indigo Snakes, scrub lizards, Crested Caracara, Burrowing Owl, and the Florida Scrub-Jay. This is a seminar followed by free NASA bus trip into restricted areas of Kennedy Space Center to see Florida Scrub-Jay families. 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 is a plant ecologist for IHA at the Kennedy Space Center.

Florida Scrub-Jay Hike at Cruickshank Sanctuary

Jan. 21 & 24, 8:30am-10:30am; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Vince Lamb (Preserve Brevard) and Keith Winsten (Brevard Zoo)

Meet at the Helen & Alan Cruickshank Sanctuary: 360 Barnes Blvd., Rockledge, FL. From US 1 in Rockledge, go west on Barnes Blvd. and travel for 0.4 miles. Look for sign and entrance gate on right. From I-95 take Exit-195 (Fiske Blvd.) At the off ramp light on the east side of I-95, turn right and go east on Barnes Blvd. Travel 2.2 miles to entrance on left.

Please come prepared to hike approximately two miles mostly on sandy trails at a slow pace. Wear closed toed shoes. Bring water.

The Helen and Alan Cruickshank Sanctuary in Rockledge is considered to be one of the best EEL Sanctuary properties to observe Florida Scrub-Jays, a threatened species that is Florida's only endemic bird. When the environment meets their needs, Florida Scrub-Jays will spend their entire lives on the same lands. The Cruickshank Sanctuary is located on the Atlantic Coastal Ridge, a relic maritime dune that extends along the Florida East Coast from Jacksonville down to Miami.

Since the Environmentally Endangered Lands Program (EEL) began land management at the 140-acre Sanctuary, the Florida Scrub-Jay population has increased from a few visiting birds to established colonies today, with approximately 22 birds in five separate families. Gopher Tortoises, Red-bellied Woodpeckers, scrub lizards and other species requiring scrub habitat are often observed in the Sanctuary. Brevard Zoo director, Keith Winsten, will talk about the Zoo's ground-breaking Florida Scrub-Jay translocation program.

Forest Biodiversity Hike

Jan. 23, 9:00am-11:00am; Limit 15 Registrants; Free

Elaine Williams & Sharon Bohlmann (Friends of the Enchanted Forest)

Meet at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary: 444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL. From EFSC drive south on US 1 for 8.3 miles. Turn right on SR 405/Columbia Blvd. Entrance on right approx. 1/2 mile.

Wear closed-toed shoes. Bring water, binoculars and camera.

A unique insight into Florida's geological structure will be viewed as we stand atop the Ancient Atlantic Coastal Ridge. Historic use of the land by humans will be discussed, including current conservation practices. Interactive educational activities will draw families and friends together while enjoying the beauty of the Enchanted Forest. Employ all your senses as we discover activities of animal life through observation and investigation of tracks and scat, sounds and scents. Encounter biodiversity and beauty while hiking along trails through three distinct habitats within the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary. Attributes of the forest flora and fauna will be discussed in relation to the land, building an appreciation of adaptation and nature's design. This will be an easy hike and family friendly.

Fox Lake Sunset Kayak Trip

Jan. 20, 4:00pm-6:00pm; Limit 10 Registrants; Free

Mike Knight (EEL Program Manager) & Xavier de Seguin Des Hons (EEL North Region Manager)

Meet at 4:00pm at the Fox Lake boat ramp. Drive south on US 1 about 2.4 miles into downtown Titusville. Turn right onto South Street and drive for about 3 1/4 miles. Turn right on Fox Lake Road and follow to the end at Fox Lake Park. Inside the park, follow the road along the shoreline around to the boat ramp.

Bring water and a dry bag or zip-lock bag to keep valuables dry. It should be noted that the kayaks are the "sit-inside" type and the cockpit width is 16".

We will explore Fox Lake and the southern end of South Lake and enjoy the sunset from the kayaks. You are sure to see wading birds and waterfowl; Limpkin, Black-bellied Whistling Duck and Purple Gallinule are possible.

Fox Lake Trailer Tour

Jan. 22, 9:00am-11:00am; Limit 15 Registrants; Free

Xavier de Seguin Des Hons (EEL North Region Land Manager), Ariel Horner (EEL Naturalist), Selena Kiser (Wildlife Biologist) & Tom Penders (Archaeologists for Autism)

Meet at Fox Lake. Drive south on US 1 about 2.4 miles into downtown Titusville. Turn right onto South Street and drive for about 3 1/4 miles. Turn right on Fox Lake Road and follow to the end at Fox Lake Park.

Please wear closed-toed shoes and bring water, bug spray.

Enjoy a leisurely trailer bench ride through Fox Lake Sanctuary. The ride will explore the recent EEL Program efforts to restore scrub habitat. Enjoy breathtaking views of both Fox and South Lakes and the local flora and fauna of the Sanctuary. This area has a rich history of use by Native Americans. Many of their middens are still intact.



the raptor project

www.raptorproject.com

The Raptor Project is an extraordinary and outstanding array of eagles, hawks, falcons and owls that have won the attention of enthralled audiences throughout the nation. The Raptor Project leads the way in outstanding, top quality, professional wildlife education.

Jonathan Wood, president and founder of The Raptor Project is a federally licensed Master Falconer, Wildlife Rehabilitator, Raptor Propagator and Game Bird Breeder and is also licensed to handle eagles and endangered species for educational programs.

The Raptor Project is one of the largest traveling collections of birds of prey in the world, with raptors from every habitat on the planet. His frequent road tours take him to many major events, fairs and festivals as well as a variety of colleges, schools, museums and wildlife centers. Along with his feathered friends he is regularly highlighted on national television including ESPN, CBN, TBN, Animal Planet, The Learning Channel, The Today Show, Good Morning America and The Early Show. Many of the birds in The Raptor Project have permanent handicaps and have been donated to his project by crowded wildlife centers around the country. Unable to be re-introduced to the wild they have been trained to educate the public as charming ambassadors of their species and the environments they inhabit. This presentation is appreciated by all ages.

Show Times

Wed., Jan. 20	1:30pm & 3:30pm
Thu., Jan. 21	1:30pm & 3:30pm
Fri., Jan. 22	1:30pm & 3:30pm
Sat., Jan. 23	11:00am, 1:30pm & 3:30pm

EFSC Gym Stage; Limited to 50 participants; FREE

Note: Seating is available for 50 persons. All children under 12 must be seated with an adult. Cameras are allowed, but please do not block other attendees' views when taking photos.

PER FIRE REGULATIONS: There will be no standing in the aisles.

Sponsored by





Black Skimmer and chick. Photo by Alexander Kropp.

Gull Fly-In at Daytona Beach Shores

Jan. 20 & 22, 3:30pm-6:00pm; Limit 40 Registrants; \$40

Michael Brothers (Marine Science Center) & Amar Ayyash (Blogger/Speaker), Larry Manfredi (South Florida Birding) & Jim Danzenbaker; Jan. 20 with David Simpson (Birding with David Simpson); Jan. 22 with Steve N. G. Howell (Naturalist)

Meet at Frank Rendon Park: 2705 S. Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach Shores, FL. From EFSC go north on US 1 2.4 miles. Turn left on SR 46 and go 1.5 miles. Go north on I-95 for 32 miles and get off at Exit 256 (FL-421). Turn right and go 5 miles east on Dunlawton Ave. FL-421. Turn left onto S. Atlantic Ave. (Hwy A1A) and go 2.2 miles. Park is on the right immediately south of the Daytona Shores Resort. Drive time approx. 50 minutes.

Free parking is available. Meet in the parking lot near the beach to begin the field trip.

This beach at Daytona Beach Shores hosts what may be the largest congregation of gulls on any beach in the United States. In addition to the amazing array and density of gulls is the fact that the birds allow such close approach. No need to peer through a scope at a distant speck. Here the birds allow you walk right up to them. This presents an extraordinary opportunity to observe and photograph the minute details on each species, and a chance to compare the various plumages and age classes. This extraordinary concentration builds to possibly as many as 30,000 gulls each evening. This beach has consistently turned up gull species that are rare in Florida, including the only record of Vega Gull in Florida. Laughing, Franklin, Ring-billed, Herring, Bonaparte's, Lesser Black-backed, Great Black-backed, Glaucous, Iceland, Thayer's and California Gulls have all been recorded. In addition, possible European Herring Gull, Yellow-legged Gulls and even a possible Slaty-backed Gull have appeared in the past. In addition to the gulls, this beach is the best location in Florida to regularly see jaegers from shore. Each evening the gulls leave the beach and settle on the ocean just beyond the breakers. Jaegers regularly patrol these huge groups, harassing the gulls. Every evening Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers can be seen from the beach.

Gull ID at Brevard County Landfill

Jan. 21, 1:00pm-4:30pm; Limit 10 Registrants; Free

Michael Brothers (Marine Science Center), Amar Ayyash (Blogger/Speaker), and your landfill host Joel Reynolds (Wildlife Photographer)

Meet in the north parking lot of the IHOP restaurant, 3755 Cheney Hwy., Titusville, near the intersection of SR50 and I-95 at 1:00pm. We will convoy to the Brevard Co. Solid Waste Operations Facility in Cocoa, FL from there. Drive time approx. 25 minutes.

The Brevard County Landfill is a very productive birding site. Join us for a rare opportunity to tour this site with some very knowledgeable gull experts. Thousands of gulls of different species can be seen at the landfill. Possible rare ones include Glaucus Gull, Iceland (Kumlien's) Gull, Thayer's Gull, California Gull, and European Herring Gull. Who knows what else we might find. The conditions allow for close comparison of similar species with many different age classes and plumages. The Landfill also offers the opportunity to get great photographs of Bald Eagles and other bird species that are present. We will meet Erin LeClair and Rita Perini (Environmental Scientists) at the Solid Waste Operations Facility and be provided a short operations description about today's Landfill. They will also provide us a very important safety briefing, have us sign Limits of Liability, give us safety vests then accompany us in their van around the facility while we search for rare gulls.

Hatbill Road: Owls and More

Jan 20, 5:45pm-8:00pm; Limit 8 Registrants; \$35

Mitchell Harris (Florida Ornithological Society) with Co-Leaders Harper Harris (Edgewood Jr/Sr High School) & Shari Blissell-Clark (Bat Belfrys, Inc./Florida Bat Conservancy)

Meet at the EFSC bus circle to board the van.

Come join a father/daughter duo and a board member of the Florida Bat Conservancy on a moonlit winter evening with the owls and other nocturnal birds. Hearing and seeing owls and other nocturnal birds can be a great family nature outing. This evening trip will take place along Hatbill Road, west of Titusville. This road runs into the St. Johns River Flood Plain which has rich habitat for many nighttime creatures. Winter owling here is typically quite productive with Great Horned, Barred and Screech Owl being common, and Barn and Short-Eared being occasional. Whip-poor-will, Woodcock, King and Virginia Rail are other birds that might be encountered. By listening, looking for the right habitat, and the conservative use of flashlights and calls we should find a number of nighttime creatures.

Shari will bring along several devices to try to help pick up one of the most fascinating and pervasive night sounds: the echolocation calls of bats, sounds which our ears aren't capable of picking up. Bat detectors can identify the range of call frequency to determine if bats are flying about. Bats are not always out in the winter - Shari will bring tapes just in case. Regardless of whether bats are flying or not, you will enjoy hearing about these fascinating creatures that have been navigating our night skies for more than 50 million years. Bring your eyes, ears, weather appropriate clothes and binoculars for an evening of both viewing and listening pleasure.

Historic Pritchard House & Family History Gardens Tour

Jan. 20 & 21, 2:30pm-4:30pm; Limit 25 Registrants; \$20

Roz Foster and the North Brevard Heritage Foundation Docents

Meet at the historic Pritchard House, drive south on US 1 2.4 miles. Turn left into parking lot, just past Julia St., across from Emma Parrish Theater.

The historic Pritchard House is a fine example of the Queen Anne style architecture, built in 1891 on this site for Captain James Pritchard and family. Capt. Pritchard was one of the first real estate agents in Titusville, organized Titusville's first bank in 1888, and built Titusville's first electric generating plant in 1890. The house was placed on the National Register in 1990. Five generations of this family continuously occupied the house until it was purchased by Brevard County for historic preservation in 2005. Built of heart pine, the original wood flooring, doors, windows, fireplace mantels, staircase and trim have been beautifully restored. The house is furnished with period antiques

and accessories, and exhibits of various collections are throughout the house. Special for Birding Festival guests is a display of vintage hats adorned with bird feathers and explanation of how early conservation efforts established laws to prohibit the slaughter of native birds such as the egret. House tours are conducted by docents in period dress. Plaques throughout the Family History Gardens tell the history of early families who settled in this area, and are open for self-guided tours throughout the day. Song birds, ospreys, egrets and hawks often visit the gardens, especially in early morning or evening hours. For additional information please call our dedicated phone line 321-607-0203 or visit our website www.pritchardhouse.com.

Historic Sites of Canaveral National Seashore

Jan. 22, 8:30pm-5:00pm; Limit 26 Registrants; \$60

John Stiner and Sarah Linney (Space Coast Audubon)

Meet at EFSC bus circle to board bus.

Bring money for lunch at J.B.'s Fish Camp on Mosquito Lagoon.

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.

Lake Monroe Conservation Area

Jan. 20, 5:45am-11:30am; Limit 26 registrants; \$25

Maria Zondervan (St. Johns River Water Management District), Lorne Malo (Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission), Sarah Linney (Space Coast Audubon) and Chip Clouse (Nature Optics, LLC)

Meet in the BCC parking lot south of the Gym at 5:45am in order to make car pool arrangements.

This is a 4-mile walk, some of which may pass through mud and standing water, so be prepared for a wet and wild adventure! Water-friendly footwear would be a good idea.

Biologists Maria Zondervan and Lorne Malo will lead this walk into the Lake Monroe Conservation Area from the adjoining Beck Ranch Park (751 S. SR415, Osteen, FL 32764) to the St. Johns River and back. 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, Wood Stork, Least

and American Bittern, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Roseate Spoonbill, Bald Eagle, Sharp-shinned, Cooper's and Short-tailed Hawks, Purple Gallinule, King and Virginia Rails, Limpkin, Sandhill Crane, Crested Caracara, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, Ash-throated and Least Flycatchers, Red-breasted and Brown-headed Nuthatch, Carolina Chickadee, Sedge and Marsh Wrens, Eastern Bluebird, Hermit Thrush, Bachman's, Vesper, Song and Grasshopper Sparrows have all been recorded here. A drive into the scrub at the end of the trip may be possible to view resident Florida Scrub-Jays and Red-headed Woodpeckers.

Lake Woodruff NWR & Lyonia Preserve

Jan. 24, 5:00am-1:00pm; Limit 26 Registrants; \$60

Andy Wraithmell (Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission), Jason Guerard (Florida Ornithological Society), Sarah Linney (Space Coast Audubon) & John Serrao (Naturalist)

Meet at EFSC bus circle to board bus.

Snack packs included. You may want to bring some as well.

The refuge impoundments at Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge provide important nesting and feeding areas for large numbers of waterfowl, wading birds, and shorebirds. Winter is an exceptionally good time of year to visit this Great Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail site. Large flocks of Glossy Ibis are present and Limpkins are a common sight. On this approximately 1-1/2 mile walk, we will scan the reed beds for American Bitterns and listen for Sedge Wrens. During the 2013 festival field trip to the refuge, participants were rewarded with amazing views of a Le Conte's Sparrow. From the refuge we will head to the Lyonia Preserve to enjoy Florida Scrub-Jays and Red-headed Woodpeckers.

Little-Big Econ State Forest

Jan. 21, 5:45am-11:30am; Limited to 26 registrants; \$25

Lorne Malo (Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission), Selena Kiser (Wildlife Biologist) & Angel & Mariel Abreu (Nature is Awesome Tours)

Meet in the BCC parking lot south of the Gymnasium at 5:45am to make car pool arrangements. Walking distance for combined sites will be about 5 miles, some of which may be through mud and standing water, so be prepared for a wet and wild adventure! Water-friendly footwear would be a good idea.

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



Crested Caracaras. Photo by Kathryn Dow.

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. Mottled Duck, American Wigeon, Blue-winged and Green-winged Teal, Gadwall, and Northern Shoveler, Wood Stork, American White Pelican, Roseate Spoonbill, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Crested Caracara, Merlin, and Peregrine Falcon, Sedge and Marsh Wrens, Yellow and Prairie Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, Song and White-crowned Sparrow have been found on Kilbee. Approximately 160 species of birds have been recorded at the Little-Big Econ State Forest.

Malabar Scrub Hiking Tour

Jan. 22, 8:00am-10:00am; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Chris O'Hara (EEL South Management Region Land Manager)

Meet at the Malabar Scrub Sanctuary, 1501 Malabar Woods Blvd., Malabar, FL. From EFSC, Take US 1 south to Garden Street, turn right and go out to I-95. Take I-95 south for about 47 miles to the Malabar Road exit. Turn left on Malabar Road and go about 2.9 miles. Turn left into Malabar Community Park. Meet at the parking area by the bathrooms.

Wear closed-toed shoes, bring water and sunscreen.

This is a two mile hike through the scrub, pine flatwoods and wetlands areas of the Sanctuary. Focus will be onsite restoration efforts for the Florida Scrub-Jay.

Marl Bed Flats - Lake Jesup CA

Jan. 20, 21 & 24, 6:00am-11:30am; Limit 26 Registrants; \$25

Tom Dunkerton (Opticron/Wildside Nature Tours); Jan. 20 with Dave Goodwin (Florida Nature Tours), Steve Ritt (Wildside Nature Tours) and Sam Fried (Flights of Fancy Adventures); Jan. 21 with Carlos Bethancourt (Canopy Family), Jason Guerard (Florida Ornithological Society) and Chris Brown (Wildside Nature Tours); Jan. 24 with Chip Clouse (Nature Optics, LLC), Michael Hilchey (Birding & Research Nature Tours), and Ethan Kistler (Birding Africa)

Meet in EFSC bus circle to make carpool arrangements.

Bring water. Be prepared to walk 2-3 miles, some of which may be through mud and standing water. It can sometimes be wet in areas, so rubber boots are recommended as well as insect repellent. Water and trail snacks are advised.

Come join us for a hike that is sure to hold surprises. The Marl Bed Tract is a large hammock that lets out onto a pasture/wet prairie presenting us with an excellent diversity of habitat providing potential for an amazing array of Florida's native wildlife. The hammock is home to Great Horned and Barred Owls as well as wintering migrants such as Yellow-throated, Black & White and Orange-crowned Warblers, Northern Parulas, 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, 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. This is sure to be an adventurous morning hike for any skill level of birding.

Night Tour of Fox Lake Sanctuary

Jan. 21, 6:30pm-9:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Xavier de Sequin des Hons (EEL North Region Land Manager), Mike Knight (EEL Program Manager) & Selena Kiser (Wildlife Biologist)

Meet at the entrance to Fox Lake Park, 4400 Fox Lake Road,



North Brevard Hot Spots. Photo by Roy Thoman.

Titusville. From EFSC, drive south on US 1 about 2.4 miles into downtown Titusville. Turn right onto South Street and drive for about 3 1/4 miles. Turn right on Fox Lake Road and follow to the end at Fox Lake Park.

Wear closed-toed shoes. Bring bug spray, water, and a flashlight.

Most of us are familiar with the typical sounds of the night: crickets chirping, katydids calling and the occasional owl hooting. But our ears are not capable of picking up some of the most fascinating and pervasive night sounds: the echolocation calls of bats. Selena will bring along a bat detector, which will identify the range of call frequency to determine if bats are flying about (as long as weather conditions are favorable for bats). This is an after dark driving tour of the nature sanctuary under a nearly-full moon. Visitors will ride on a trailer with bench seating. Some limited seating is also available in 4x4 vehicles. The trip will include a 1/2 mile owling walk.

Nocturnal Nature Hike at the Enchanted Forest

Jan. 22, 6:30pm-8:30pm; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Joe Swingle and Ariel Horner (EEL Program Naturalists)

Meet at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary: 444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL. From EFSC drive south on US 1 for 8.3 miles. Turn right on SR 405/Columbia Blvd. Entrance on right approx. 1/2 mile.

Wear closed-toed shoes. Bring water, bug spray and a flashlight.

Whoooo... is ready for a nocturnal adventure at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary? Join Naturalists on a night of discovery and exploration.

North Brevard Hotspots

Jan. 20, 21, 22, & 23, 6:30am-12:30pm; Limit 25 Registrants; \$55

Doug Stuckey (Space Coast Audubon); Jan. 20 with Jim Eager (Obsessive Compulsive Birding), Carlos Bethancourt (Canopy Family) & Michael Hilchey (Birding & Nature Research Tours); Jan. 21 with Victor Emanuel and Barry Lyon (Victor Emanuel Nature Tours) and Sarah Linney (Space Coast Audubon); Jan. 22 with Ric Zarwell (Rockjumper Worldwide Birding Tours), Ethan Kistler (Birding Africa) and Steve Ritt (Wildside Nature Tours); Jan. 23 with Bill Stewart (American Birding Association) and Chris Brown (Wildside Nature Tours)

Meet at EFSC bus circle to board bus.

This trip requires moderate walking. Wear comfortable closed-toed shoes.

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. Northern Brevard County has much

festival bird list

Segue from 1997 to 2016 & Birding in the Digital Age

Since its inception, the Festival has produced one constant - a reliable list of birds seen during all activities and events - combined and available for review. Betty and Karl Eichhorn were instrumental in compiling the first list for the 1997 Festival and creating a birding checklist to officially be used by attendees and field trip leaders. Each Festival thereafter Betty has created the official birding checklist - a compendium with American Birding Association qualifications.

These first hard copy lists from the field trips were compiled into single pages and also posted on the Festival web site. We moved from hand-posted, single-page listings to a large wall-mounted board on which field trip leaders and everyone posted their own sightings with a magic marker. We had a rough time rigging this thing up every year.

Eagle Optics came to our rescue by printing plastic poster panels with spaces to add field trip names across the top and bird names down the side. They were shipped to us to assemble in a workable manner and cover with clear plastic in order to re-use the next year. Laurilee Thompson, then Dave Freeland, and then Doug and Susie Stuckey faithfully created the bird list that was posted on the Festival web site. David Hartgrove assumed the duties of gathering the lists and information for posting for a couple of years. He also mounted the "big board" on legs in order to be moved easily out of the way for other activities in that area.

Following the 2015 Festival, Joel and Judy Reynolds volunteered to organize the lists to include all field trips and offshore boat trip transferred from the board in an easy-to-read sequence. Judy used her talents of working with Excel to produce a great looking listing of birds seen throughout the festival.

THEN, Joel's inquiring mind kicked in with an idea of having the bird list that could be digitally produced and perhaps be available at the Festival for immediate viewing and entering birds seen on current field trips. I suggested Joel talk with Mike Stewart of MSA Productions who provides festival A/V services. We live in an age of instant gratification, immediate posts to social media, many kinds of updates to our smart phones - and now - instant bird list updates at the Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival. Thanks to the technical wizardry of Mike, and the creation of a digital program personalized to the Festival, we now have the ability for our field trip leaders to update their trip lists from their smart phones or laptops and have it instantly appear on the "scoreboard" in the Exhibit Center.

Gone is the big white-board and magic marker... enter the 60-inch flat-screen TV and Wi-Fi connected laptop using Mike's programming prowess. This display can be found at the front of the Exhibit Center, at the main entrance next to the Silent Auction. This new addition to the 19th Annual Festival, sponsored by Kevin Loughlin & Wildside Nature Tours, is sure to be a hit attraction for attendees, especially as they wait in line for food during the Afternoon Social at the end of each fun-filled day of birding!

- Neta Harris



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, 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. This trip has counted approximately 108 species previously. Specific sites to be visited will be determined during pre-festival scouting trips.

Orienteering / Scavenger Hunt

Jan. 22, 1:30pm-3:30pm; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Martha Pessaro (Sanctuary Steward EEL Central Region) & Patti Rendon (EEL Naturalist)

Meet at Sams House Education Center: 6195 North Tropical Trail, Merritt Island, FL. From EFSC, travel south on US 1 for 8.3 miles. Go east on SR 405 for 6.1 miles. Turn right on Space Commerce Way and go 2.7 miles. Turn right on N. Courtenay Pkwy/FL-3 and travel 3.2 miles. Turn right on N. Tropical Trail and go 0.5 mile. Sam's House will be on the right.

Please wear appropriate clothing and closed-toed shoes.

The art of direction and detection will be explored in this family encouraged (teamwork) adventure. What tools were used prior to GPS? Use a map and compass to find hidden objects in this family-fun challenge. Great for all ages! Easy hiking will take place around and about the Sams House Cabin and Interpretive Trail. Wildlife observation in this area includes Gopher Tortoises, many bird species, and frequent visits from Barred Owls. Signs of overnight visitation from Bobcats and Raccoons are plentiful.

Pioneer Hike to Pine Island Conservation Area

Jan. 21, 1:30pm-4:30pm; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Martha Pessaro (Sanctuary Steward EEL Central Region)

Meet at Sams House Education Center: 6195 North Tropical Trail, Merritt Island, FL. From EFSC, travel south on US 1 for 8.3 miles. Go east on SR 405 for 6.1 miles. Turn right on Space Commerce Way and go 2.7 miles. Turn right on N. Courtenay Pkwy/FL-3 and travel 3.2 miles. Turn right on N. Tropical Trail and go 0.5 mile. Sam's House will be on the right.

Moderate hiking requires closed-toed shoes. Bring insect repellent, sun protection and water.

The John H. Sams Family settled the area known as Courtenay on North Merritt Island. Trails that lead to the Pine Island Conservation Area wind through areas once traveled by both archaic peoples and then pioneers. Following the Garnet Trail heading north through meandering tree canopied pathways, one is reminded of the earlier travels. Arriving at the saltmarsh, newly opened horizon to horizon, visual habitat is encountered. Dredge-spoil adjacent to Sams Creek was removed to restore high-saltmarsh wetlands. Tour this restoration area, view the nicely restored marsh and learn about salt-marsh ecology and vegetation.

Pish-Free Birding

Jan. 24, 7:00am-10:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$30

Dee & David Simpson (Birding with David Simpson)

Meet at MINWR Oak & Palm Hammock parking lot, just past the MINWR Visitor's Center on the left.

Picture yourself sitting at home in the kitchen. You are just about to sit down with a PB&J and a nice cold glass of milk, when suddenly you hear a voice yelling, "WHAT'S THAT? WHAT'S THAT? WHAT'S THAT?" You get up, look around, and there is no one there. After a while you calm down and go back to eating a now soggy sandwich and warm milk.

This doesn't sound like a fun time now does it? This is basically what you are doing when you pish for birds - you are interrupting their daily business by making a warning call. Join us for a quiet, polite birding field trip where we will look and listen for birds on their terms, not ours. Pishing, tapes and calls are NOT allowed on this field trip.

Plants & Their Uses through History from Ancient to Modern Times

Jan. 23, 12:00pm-2:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Jay Barnhart and Jim Stahl (Florida Native Plant Society & Friends of the Enchanted Forest)

Meet at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary: 444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL. From EFSC drive south on US 1 for 8.3 miles. Turn right on SR 405/Columbia Blvd. Entrance on right approx. 1/2 mile.

Wear closed-toed shoes. Bring water.

Titusville's 472-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. Your interpreters for this session will be trail guide volunteer and avid mushroom hobbyist Jay Barnhart and retired land manager and biologist Jim Stahl. 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.

Playalinda Beach: Sea-birding from Shore

Jan. 23 & 24, 7:15am-10:30am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$30

Mitchell Harris (Florida Ornithological Society) with Larry Manfredi (South Florida Birding)

Meet at the Parrish Park Boat Ramp parking lot, north side.

Please bring binoculars and spotting scopes if you have them. Dress weather appropriate.

Sea-watching, from the birder's perspective, is looking for birds over the ocean from shore. This practice is best done with both spotting scope and binoculars. It's a bit more of a challenge than most other forms of birding in that one has to learn to identify most of the birds in flight. This field class will focus on teaching what clues to look for and how best to approach identifying seabirds in flight. We'll also discuss what conditions improve one's chances of seeing the largest diversity of seabirds from shore. Playalinda Beach will be our classroom and although bird flights along the shore have wide variability depending on conditions, I can guarantee we'll have seabirds to work with for the class. Some of the seabird possibilities from Playalinda in January are: six common species of gulls and 3 rare ones; Parasitic Jaeger, Common and Red-throated Loon, Red Phalarope (occasional), all three scoters with Black being the most common, Northern Gannett and Manx Shearwater (rare). So join us for a day of sea-spray and sulids. It will be an eye opener.



Sandwich Terns Courting. Photo by Alexander Kropp.

Red-cockaded Woodpeckers & More at Hal Scott Regional Preserve & Park

Jan. 24, 5:15am-12:00pm; Limit 26 Registrants; \$55

Maria Zondervan (St. Johns River Water Management District), Lorne Malo (Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission) & Michael Hiltchey (Birding & Research Nature Tours)

Meet at EFSC bus circle to board bus. Portions of the site may require crossing mud and standing water, so be prepared for a wet and wild adventure! Water-friendly footwear would be a good idea.

Join biologists Maria Zondervan and Lorne Malo at the Hal Scott Regional Preserve and Park for an exciting half-day adventure in pursuit of some of east Orange County's resident birds. We will start out by visiting an active Red-cockaded Woodpecker colony as the birds awaken from their roost. From there we will explore the surrounding pine flatwoods, wet prairies, and the Econlockhatchee River swamp nearby in search of such common inhabitants as the Eastern Bluebird, Eastern Meadowlark, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Bachman's Sparrow, Wood Duck, Sandhill Crane, Bald Eagle, and Barred Owl. With some luck we may find Wild Turkey, Hairy Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hermit Thrush, Orange-crowned Warbler, Sedge Wren, Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks. Gopher Tortoise, White-tailed Deer, and River Otter may also be found. A Hammond's Flycatcher was found on this trip about 10 years ago.

Reptiles of the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary

Jan. 21, 2:00pm-4:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Joe Swingle (Naturalist, EEL Program) and Becky Bolt (Senior Biologist, Kennedy Space Center Ecological Program)

Meet at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary: 444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL. From EFSC drive south on US 1 for 8.3 miles. Turn right on SR 405/Columbia Blvd. Entrance on right approx. 1/2 mile. Wear closed toed shoes and bring water.

Discover gopher tortoises, snakes, and other reptiles that make the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary their home. This program includes a hands-on presentation on reptile biology and a short hike to view reptiles and their habitats. Participants will also get the opportunity to meet the nature center's resident Red Rat Snake.

Ritch Grissom Memorial Wetlands at Viera

Jan. 20, 23 & 24, 6:30am-12:00pm; Limit 26 Registrants; \$55

Louise Zemaitis (Victor Emanuel Nature Tours); Jan. 20 with Nancy McAllister (Wildside Nature Tours), and Ethan Kistler (Birding Africa); Jan. 23 with Sam Fried (Flights of Fancy Adventures) and Corey Finger (10,000 Birds); Jan. 24 with Nancy McAllister (Wildside Nature Tours) and Carlos Belhancourt (Canopy Family)

Meet at EFSC bus circle to board bus.

Viera Wetlands is a series of connected ponds created to treat



Viera Wetlands, Florida. Photo by Robert Amoroso.

wastewater from the Central Brevard area. Since opening in 2001, this site has rapidly gained recognition as a premier destination within Brevard County for birders, wildlife watchers and photographers. 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, Lesser Scaup, Ringnecked 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.

Salt Lake WMA/Seminole Ranch Conservation Area

Jan. 21 & 22, 6:45am-11:30am; Limit 30 Registrants; Free

Dave Turner and Bryan Ames (Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission); **Jan. 21 with Corey Finger** (10,000 Birds) and **Jim Eager** (Obsessive Compulsive Birding); **Jan. 22 with Jason Guerard** (Florida Ornithological Society) and **Carlos Bethancourt** (Canopy Family)

Meet at Salt Lake WMA, 1590 Arch Rd., Mims. From the intersection of US 1 and SR46, drive west on SR46 for 2.3 miles. Turn left onto Turpentine Rd. Go south on Turpentine Rd. It turns to dirt near the end. Follow the dirt road around the right curve where Turpentine Rd. turns into Panther Lane. Take Panther Lane straight past the stop sign at Tomato Farm Rd. Panther Lane curves to the left and becomes Arch Rd., which ends at a gate just past a ditch. This is the gate into Salt Lake WMA.

This adventure will utilize trailers pulled by 4-wheel drive trucks. Participants will sit on hay bales. Portions of the properties may be wet and muddy. Wear closed-toed comfortable walking shoes. It may be cold. Please dress appropriately. Bring water and snacks. There is a port-o-let facility located at the Salt Lake WMA main entrance. No restroom facilities available during the trip.

Home to a diverse range of natural communities, pine flatwoods, hardwood hammocks and oak scrub occupy higher ground. Wetter locales include oak/cabbage palm hammocks, swamps, freshwater marshes, wet prairies, and salt flats. Numerous wading birds,

shorebirds, waterfowl, and raptors can be found on the lakes and river. White-tailed deer, feral hogs, river otters, alligators and turtles may also be seen. Bald Eagles and Wild Turkeys are common on both properties and Crested Caracaras are occasionally found. The flatwoods at Salt Lake WMA provide good habitat for woodpeckers and songbirds, such as the Eastern Bluebird and Bachman's Sparrow. Florida Scrub-Jays and Gopher Tortoises are found in the oak scrub on the Salt Lake property. Many salt-tolerant and marine dwelling organisms present here are not found elsewhere in the Middle or Upper St. Johns River Basins. The salinity also influences the marsh vegetation surrounding the lakes. In some places, the soil is so salty that it can be tolerated only by one plant species - glasswort. Salt flats which border the lakes offer good opportunities to view numerous shore birds and wading birds when water levels are not too high. Eastern Pygmy-Blue butterflies are very common at the salt flats on the St. Johns River during spring and summer if water levels are low. At least 136 species of birds have been documented at the Salt Lake WMA. Approximately 178 bird species have been recorded on the Seminole Ranch CA. The 7,805-acre Salt Lake WMA is jointly owned by the St. Johns River Water Management District and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and is managed by the FWC.

Sam's House Eagle Families

Jan. 23, 10:30am-11:30am; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Martha Pessaro (EEL Sanctuary Steward)

Meet at Sams House Education Center: 6195 North Tropical Trail, Merritt Island, FL. From EFSC, travel south on US 1 for 8.3 miles. Go east on SR405 for 6.1 miles. Turn right on Space Commerce Way and go 2.7 miles. Turn right on N. Courtenay Pkwy/FL-3 and travel 3.2 miles. Turn right on N. Tropical Trail and go 0.5 mile. Sam's House will be on the right.

Closed-toed shoes and protection from sun and insects are advisable.

Do you know what eagles need for building nests? Participate in a "nest" building project and hear a legend about the eagles. Our resident eagles may be sitting on the nest or tending chicks at the time of our expedition. Families will be able to check their wingspans against a wall chart of many birds. There will be an easy 0.8 mile hike out to the nest overlook site.

Scottsmoor Flatwoods Sanctuary Exploration Ride

Jan. 21, 9am-11am; Limit 16 Registrants; Free

Xavier de Sequin des Hons (EEL Program North Area Land Manager) & **Ariel Horner** (EEL Naturalist)

Meet at Parrish Park Scottsmoor, 4055 Magoon Ave. Scottsmoor, FL. From EFSC, Drive north on US 1 for 10 miles, turn left on Magoon Ave in Scottsmoor - the Park is at the end of the street.

Enjoy a leisurely trailer bench ride through pine flatwoods and other habitats. Relax as we explore local flora and fauna and learn about recent land management activities.

Shorebirds by Impression Outdoor ID Workshop for Beginners, with Birding by Impression Tips for Other Birds

Jan. 21, 8:00am-12:00pm; Limit 30 Registrants; \$45

Kevin Carlson with Nancy McAllister (Wildside Nature Tours), **Ray VanBuskirk & Michael Hilchey** (Birding Research and Nature Tours)

Meet at the Parrish Park Boat Ramp parking lot, north side.

This interactive outdoor workshop shares a different approach to field identification that Kevin and his co-author and wife call "Birding by Impression, A Different Approach to Knowing and Identifying Birds", which is the title of their new book in the Roger Tory Peterson Reference Series. Shorebirds are the focus of this workshop, and the

leaders will encourage participants to concentrate initially on basic impressions of relative size, body shape, structural features and behavior to form a surprisingly accurate mental picture of every bird seen in the field. Plumage details are then added to create a more holistic and comprehensive ID picture. Natural history information will also be shared to enhance your appreciation of birds as fascinating members of the natural world. Test your birding and observation skills by attending this workshop, and learn a different way of knowing and identifying birds of all species.

St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park

Jan. 20 & 21, 4:30am-12:00pm; Limit 15 Registrants; \$65

Samantha McGee (St. Sebastian River Buffer Preserve State Park) and **David Simpson** (Birding With David Simpson); Jan. 20 with **Chris Brown** (Wildside Nature Tours); Jan. 21 with **Steve Ritt** (Wildside Nature Tours)

Meet at bus circle at EFSC to board bus.

Snack packs included. You may want to bring some as well.

During the field trip, participants will sit on hay bales in the back of pick-up trucks. Some walking through pinewoods and saw palmettos will be required for moderate distances.

This field trip is offered in two smaller groups in order to provide an extraordinary personal experience and less stressful effects on the species being observed. We will leave early in order to catch Red-cockaded Woodpeckers leaving their nest cavities at sunrise. This 22,000+ acre site is home to many of the sought-after pinewoods specialties. Nine families of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers and more than 40 families of Florida Scrub-Jays call the preserve their home. Bachman's Sparrows are abundant, though sometimes 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 and the preserve biologist, Samantha McGee will give you the inside scoop on how the preserve is managed for these special birds and their habitats. After watching the Red-cockaded Woodpeckers emerge, we will tour other parts of the preserve in search of Florida Scrub-Jays and the species found here.

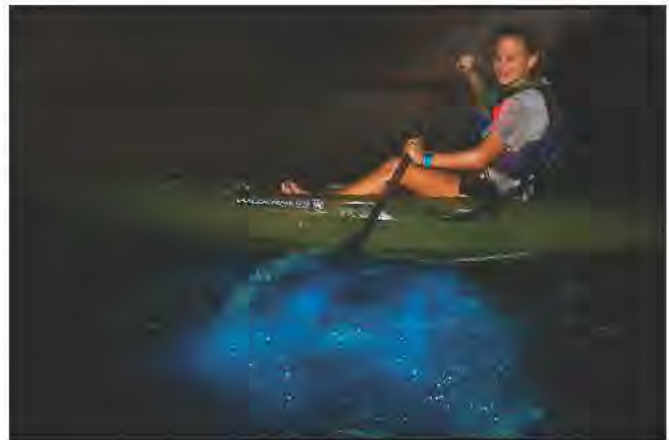
Thousand Islands Kayak Tour

Jan. 20 & Jan. 21, 8:00am-11:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$40

Tim Kozusko (Kennedy Space Center Ecological Program) and **Timmy Chastain** (Fin Expeditions)

From the intersection of SR 520 and Hwy. A1A in Cocoa Beach, drive 3.4 miles south and make a right turn (west) onto 5th Street South. Go west one block then make a left onto South Brevard Ave. Go 0.03 miles and turn right onto Ramp Road and go to the end of the road.

Join Tim and Timmy for a birding and ecological kayak tour of the Thousand Islands in Cocoa Beach. Rich in both temperate and tropical 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. Canals between the islands provide shelter for manatees (in warmer weather) and dolphins and a wide variety of wading birds. Explore mangrove tunnels and see migratory waterfowl in the remains of a flood tide delta deposit marking the site of a former storm surge inlet. Wildlife Biologist Tim Kozusko is a native of Cocoa Beach with nearly 50 years of experience in the Thousand Islands. Timmy Chastain is a native Floridian, a fully licensed nature guide and owner of Fin Expeditions, www.finexpeditions.com.



Bioluminescence and Carlee. Photo by A Day Away.

Tosohatchee I: Meet Native Florida

Jan. 20 & 21, 5:30am-12:00pm; Limit 25 Registrants; \$55

Lynn Proenza and Casey Dorsch (Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission); Jan. 21 with **Victor Emanuel and Barry Lyon** (Victor Emanuel Nature Tours); Jan. 22 with **Ethan Kistler** (Birding Africa) and **George Armistead** (American Birding Association)

Meet at EFSC bus circle to board bus.

Closed-toed shoes are recommended.

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. 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 Tootsoahatchee 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.

Tosohatchee II: The Wilder Side

Jan. 22, 5:30am-2:00pm; Limit 25 Registrants; \$65

Lynn Proenza and Casey Dorsch (Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission) with **Angel & Mariel Abreu** (Nature Is Awesome Tours)

Meet at EFSC bus circle to board bus.

This is a hike of intermediate skills. Trails may be wet, so please wear older, comfortable closed-toed shoes. Bring snacks and water. This tour includes box lunch.

With 30,700 acres and 60 miles of multiuse trails and dirt roads to wander, Tosohatchee WMA has plenty to offer birders and wildlife watchers (see Tosohatchee I). While one visit barely scratches the surface of this wild and scenic property, this new tour showcases some of Tosohatchee's wilder spots and features destinations not included on the original tour. You'll want to lace up your hiking boots for this

one; we'll be walking several miles of trails away from the main roads. Depending on pre-festival scouting results, we'll choose from among the wide array of ponds, wooded creeks, hammocks, pine forests and marshes in search of ducks, wading birds, rails, raptors, owls, songbirds and more. The WMA's checklist includes roughly 220 species, with rarities such as Crested Caracara, Short-tailed Hawk, King Rail, Limpkin and Rusty Blackbird.

Turkey Creek Tract - Charles H. Bronson State Forest

Jan. 20 & 22; 6:45am-11:00am; Limit 9 Registrants; \$45

Stephen Stipkovits (Florida Forest Service) with David Hartgrove (Florida Nature Tours)

Meet at the Chuluota Wilderness Area at 6:45am. Directions to 3800 Curryville Rd., Chuluota, FL 32766: From the intersection of I-95 (Exit 223) and SR46, go west on SR46 for 16.4 miles. Turn left at traffic light in Geneva; go south on CR426 for 0.8 miles. Bear left onto Snow Hill Rd.; go 5.2 miles. Right after the big curve, turn left onto Ave. H; go 0.1 miles. Turn left onto Brumley Rd.; go east 1.0 miles. Turn right onto Lake Mills Rd.; go 1.2 miles. Turn left onto Curryville Rd.; go 2.6 miles. Parking lot for Chuluota Wilderness Area is on the right just past the power lines. From the intersection of I-95 (Exit 215) and SR50, go west on SR50 for 10.3 miles. Turn right on Fort Christmas Rd.; go north for 9.7 miles. Turn right on Lake Mills Rd.; go 0.8 miles. Bear straightish/rightish (do not turn left) to go onto Curryville Rd.; go 2.6 miles. Parking lot for Chuluota Wilderness Area is on the right. Participants will ride inside a van. Some walking (1-2 miles) may be necessary, depending on water levels. Portions of the property will be wet and muddy - be sure to dress appropriately. Wear comfortable closed-toed shoes. Bring snacks and water. There are no restrooms here. No restrooms are available during the trip.

Among Florida's most significant conservation efforts, the public lands cover 125 square miles west of Titusville. The Turkey Creek Tract is among the final shoreline acquisition properties in one of the most truly wild sections of the St. Johns River. Large portions of the Turkey Creek Tract are pasture interspersed with hardwood hammocks and pine flatwoods, which are home to hundreds of wintering Sandhill Cranes, dozens of Wild Turkeys and Northern Bobwhites, and numerous other grassland birds, including Eastern Meadowlark, American Kestrel, Red-tailed Hawk; Loggerhead Shrike, and Grasshopper Sparrow. Bald Eagles nest immediately off-site to the north and a pair of Crested Caracaras inhabit the St. Johns River marsh on the east side of the tract. Numerous shorebirds, wading birds, and waterfowl can be found on the river's floodplain. This St. Johns River Water Management District and State of Florida property is an addition to the Charles H. Bronson State Forest which has allowed the Festival to again tour this property. Approximately 140 species of birds have been identified here to date.

Waterfowl 101

Jan. 21, 23 & 24; 8:00am-12:00pm; Limit 16 Registrants; \$30

Bruce Anderson and Murray Gardler (Florida Ornithological Society)

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot, north side.

The Indian River Lagoon and Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge host more than a dozen species of ducks each winter. There are several species there that you likely won't see elsewhere in the area, or at least have the opportunity to study leisurely and up close. A Eurasian Wigeon or two are almost annual, and occasionally geese, Long-tailed Ducks, Common Goldeneyes and scoters visit.

Murray Gardler and Bruce Anderson will guide you through the identification of the often brightly colored and distinctly patterned drakes (males) and the often plainer and not-so-easy-to-always-identify hens (females). You will be introduced to the topography of a duck and the field marks used to identify each species. In addition, you



Osprey. Photo by David Akoubian.

will learn interesting facts about waterfowl, such as their distinctive molt cycles and where they breed.

The workshop convenes on the Indian River Lagoon to view diving ducks as well as loons and grebes, species that are often mistaken for ducks. Then the group will continue on to MINWR and Black Point Drive where the dabbling ducks congregate together with the abundant American Coots, also sometimes mistaken for ducks. Along the way you will see gulls, terns, waders, and shorebirds, and sometimes a Peregrine Falcon (formerly known as the Duck Hawk) that is attracted to the waterfowl smorgasbord!

Wildflowers, Plants, & Other Things of the North Brevard Area

Jan. 20, 8:00am-3:30pm; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Jim Stahl (Retired Biologist, MINWR Volunteer) and Armand deFilipo (Florida Native Plant Society)

Jan. 22, 9:00am-4:30pm; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Jim Stahl and Al Brayton (MINWR Volunteers)

Meet at Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitors Center for



Bobcat walking. Photo by Joel Reynolds.

intro, followed by carpool field trip. 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.

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 include diverse habitats in the Merritt Island Refuge, such as hardwood hammock, oak-palm hammock, pine flatwoods, scrub, brackish marshes, and sedge meadows. 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.

Wings Over Florida - Hal Scott Regional Park and the St. Johns River Floodplain at the SR 50 Boat Ramp

Jan. 22 & 23, 7:45am-12:00pm; Limit 26 Registrants; \$15

Andy Wraithmel and Whitney Gray (FWCC), with Greg Miller (Wildside Nature Tours) and Bill Thompson III (Bird Watcher's Digest)

Meet at the traffic circle in front of the Gym at EFSC to organize a car pool.



Immature Ibis - MINWR. Photo by Hazel Meredith.

Did you see the movie "The Big Year?" Remember the character that Jack Black played? Well - Brad Harris was based on a real person and he will be on this field trip. That's right - Greg Miller, who has the distinction of seeing more birds than almost anyone in the nation, will be on this trip to help you learn how to identify birds. Even if you don't think you're interested in counting birds, you can come along and hear what it was like to meet Jack Black and instruct Jack on how to act like a birder. Imagine telling Jack Black how to act! If you think that is good, just wait until you hear some of Greg's other birding stories!

The other celebrity birder joining this trip is none other than Bill Thompson III (better known as BT3), co-publisher of Bird Watcher's Digest and the author of many books on birds and the natural world. In his four decades of birding, Bill has met some unusual people, had some unusual experiences and learned a great many lessons (the hard way) about birding and human nature and yes, there are some stories here too... He is devoted to introducing kids to nature and birding and considers his *Young Birder's Guide to Birds of North America* his proudest personal achievement.

This field trip is to encourage beginner bird watchers to take part in the Great Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail program, Wings Over Florida. This free bird and butterfly listing recognition program is designed to encourage you to explore Florida, looking for new native birds and butterflies to enjoy and add to your life list. You can earn full color certificates depicting the beautiful art of Diane Pierce and Rafael Galvez. On this field trip we will visit two Great Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail sites searching for Bald Eagle, Crested Caracara, Caspian Tern, Glossy Ibis, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Eastern Bluebird and, if we're lucky, Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Participants will be able to earn their first birding and butterfly Wings Over Florida certificates on this field trip. Loaner optics will be available.

Andy Wraithmel is the Wildlife Information Specialist for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and Whitney Gray is the Great Florida Birding & Wildlife Trail Coordinator for the FWCC. Greg Miller is a tour leader for Wildside Nature Tours.

Zellwood & Lake Apopka

Jan. 21, 22 & 23, 5:30am-4:30pm; Limit 25 Registrants; \$85

Meet at EFSC bus circle to board bus. Box lunches will be provided. Wear comfortable closed-toed shoes.

Jan. 21 Jim Peterson (SJRWMD) with Ric Zarwell (Rockjumper Worldwide Birding Tours), Sam Fried (Flights of Fancy Adventures) and Jim Danzenbaker; Jan. 22 Pam Bowen (SJRWMD) with Gina Kent (Avian Research & Conservation Institute), Adam Kent (Florida Ornithological Society) and Chris Brown (Wildside Nature Tours); Jan. 23 Gian Basili (SJRWMD) with Nancy McAllister (Wildside Nature Tours), David Hartgrove (Florida Nature Tours) and Chip Clouse (Nature Optics, LLC)

Despite its long history of great birding, this area may be one of the very best but least-known birding areas on the Eastern Seaboard. In the 1940s, 20,000 acres of marsh on Lake Apopka's north shore were drained to create muck farms which fed millions for over half a century. Farming practices required flooding the fields each summer to kill nematodes. Over several weeks, the water was drained into the lake, creating ideal habitat for migrating shorebirds. In the early 1950s, birders began visiting the area and received great cooperation from the landowners. The St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) purchased most of the farmlands in the 1980s and 1990s to restore wetland habitat and improve water quality in Lake Apopka. Shorebirds that normally would have left remained into winter and were joined by unprecedented numbers of waterfowl. Large numbers of flycatchers, sparrows, and other passerines also used the area. In 1998, the first

post-festival tours

Big Year Tour Series: Florida

January 24-30, 2016

Greg Miller, noted birder from "The Big Year" book and movie, has created a series of eleven tours for Wildside Nature Tours' 2016 schedule. These birding trips, all within the lower 48 states, will give you a huge boost toward your own big year, while also benefiting the ABA's Youth Birding programs!

Florida is stop number two in the series as, according to eBird more than 350 species of birds have been recorded just in the last week of January. That's why this tour immediately follows the popular Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival! The dates are January 24-30.

The mild temperatures and huge number of wintering birds in Florida make it a prime destination for any birder. A few of the species we'll be looking for include Mottled Duck, Wood Stork, Magnificent Frigatebird, Anhinga, American Bittern, Reddish Egret, Roseate Spoonbill, Snail Kite, Bald Eagle, Short-tailed Hawk, Purple Swamphen, Purple Gallinule, Limpkin, Wilson's Plover, Snowy Plover, Piping Plover, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Black Skimmer, Common Ground-Dove, Crested Caracara, Nanday Parakeet, Monk Parakeet, Florida Scrub-Jay, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Bachman's Sparrow, Painted Bunting, and Boat-tailed Grackle. This will be an exciting trip!

For information on all the Big Year Series destinations, visit: BigYearTours.com

Florida Birds Photo Workshop

January 24 - 26, 2016

Join Kevin Loughlin, owner of Wildside Nature Tours, to photograph herons, egrets, ducks, hawks and more during this entry-level to intermediate-level workshop. Our small group will include a maximum of only 6 participants. During the workshop, which will include both classroom and hands-on sessions, we will discuss exposure and composition, and learn to 'see' the possibilities in order to set up when the light and conditions are right. www.wildsidenaturetours.com/wildside-workshops/



Groove-billed Ani (Lake Apopka). Photo by John Serrao

Christmas Bird Count (CBC) in the area established a national inland record with 174 bird species. SJRWMD has been supportive of the birding community and has provided help each year with the CBC. Highlights from previous fieldtrips include as many as 13 sparrow species, including rarities like LeConte's and Clay-colored, and unique flycatcher species like Western, Cassin's, Tropical and Gray Kingbirds and Ash-throated Flycatchers. The first state records of Roughlegged Hawk, Eurasian Kestrel, and Ferruginous Hawk were recorded here, as well as second state records for the Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, White-cheeked Pintail and Ross' Goose.



Roseate Spoonbill. Photo by Kevin Loughlin

offshore birding & wildlife adventure

Jan. 24 & 25; 7:00am-1:00pm; Limit 100 Registrants; \$80

Trip Leader: Michael Brothers (Marine Science Center)

Co-leaders: Julie Albert (Marine Resources Council), Steve N. G. Howell, Corey Finger (10,000 Birds), Dave Goodwin (Florida Nature Tours), David Hartgrove (Florida Nature Tours), Jim Dandenbaker, Roy Halpin (SCBWF Social Media Coordinator) and Wes Biggs (Florida Nature Tours); Jan. 24 with Amar Ayyash (Blogger/Speaker); Eric Reyier (Kennedy Space Center Ecological Program); Jan. 25 with Tom Dunkerton (Opticron/Wildside Nature Tours), Laurilee Thompson (SCBWF Founder), and Ric Zarwell (Rockjumper Worldwide Birding Adventures)

Meet at the Pastime Princess/Dolphin View Seafood Restaurant, 107 N. Riverside Dr., New Smyrna Beach, FL. Phone: 386-427-5393, www.pastimeprincess.com. From I-95 Exit 249, travel east on SR 44 until you go over an overpass that passes over train tracks. At the bottom of the overpass make the first left at the light onto Palmetto St. Stay on Palmetto St. until it ends and make a right onto Canal St. Take Canal St. until it dead ends at the water. Turn left onto Riverside Dr. Go about 300 feet and turn right into the parking lot of the Fish 'n' Cove Marine Supply store. Proceed down the driveway to the right side of the store. You will see the boat next to the Dolphin View Restaurant when you enter the back parking lot. Park at the west end of the parking lot. From US 1, go east on Canal St. and follow the previous instructions.

Note: Please arrive 20 minutes early. The boat will not wait for late people. There will be no food or beverages available for purchase on the boat. Bring food and water - you may bring a small cooler. Dress warmly, bring full rain gear and wear waterproof shoes! Your rain gear will help to cut the wind and keep you warmer. It can get very cold out on the ocean this time of the year.

The following quote is from Michael Brothers, director of the Marine Science Center at Daytona Beach and trip leader for the 2015 Pelagic Trip: "What an exciting day we had! Gale force winds, sustained at 35 knots, made it impossible for us to go far offshore. However, because the winds were out of the west, we were able to stay close to shore and make our way northward up the coast. We made it past the Flagler Beach pier. The highlight of the day was not even the birds - it was 2 or possibly 3 Humpback Whales! They surfaced repeatedly - at least 20 times. It was remarkable! In addition we had 8 to 10 jaegers, including both

Parasitic and Pomarine Jaegers. An Iceland Gull came right up behind the boat. We moved from shrimp boat to shrimp boat, marveling at the tremendous numbers of birds behind each one. Our chumming behind the boat resulted in a never-ending crowd of gulls and gannets to watch from amazingly close quarters. In all we saw 8 gull and 5 tern species along with the glorious aerial spectacle of pelicans and gannets constantly crashing into the sea. Not a bad day at all!"

Sometimes things just don't turn out like they're planned. That is

certainly what happened with last year's festival pelagic trip. Because of fierce winds the intended journey to the edge of the Gulfstream was scrapped and, instead, the boat stayed very close to shore. We had such a great outing we decided to do it again in 2016 - twice. This year will be even better because we are bringing along the Dock Master from Wild Ocean Seafood Market, Captain Josh McCoy, who will work with Pastime Princess Captains George and Mike to coordinate with the captains of the shrimp boats so that we can get closer than ever to the working shrimp boats. We really want to do that because sharks can sometimes be seen feeding behind the shrimpers, snapping up scraps thrown out by deckhands.

In addition to Michael Brothers, other notable authorities on the boat will include Julie Albert, Florida Coordinator for the Northern Right Whale Program and Steve N. G. Howell, Festival Keynote Speaker and co-author of the *East Coast Offshore Sea Life ID Guide*. Julie holds a research permit that allows any vessel she is on to get closer than the 1500 foot buffer that all other boats must adhere to when a North Atlantic right whale is spotted. If we are fortunate enough to find whales, we will be able to get close to them. Shark expert Eric Reyier will be onboard for the Sunday, Jan. 24 trip. A

host of birding experts will also be on hand to answer your questions about the birds. You may think that all of those coastal birds you see are just sea gulls. Think again - actually, there are a quite a few different gulls along with their close associates - terns.

Our targets for the trip will be all of the offshore wildlife we can find. That includes jellyfish and fish. There is a very good chance that we will see dolphins. Sea turtles are a possibility as are North Atlantic right whales. This area is within their wintertime calving grounds. One way to attract birds nearer to the boat is to chum. Chum is produced using a number of food items, such as mackerel and mullet, combined with fish oil. The chum is periodically tossed overboard to attract the birds as well as other sea creatures. We will definitely be chumming. So, come along - every trip is different. There is no telling what we will see!



Top: Northern Gannet. Middle: Humpback Whale, Tail Flukes Spray. Photos by Michael Brothers
Bottom: Shrimper with Gulls. Photo by Tom Dunkerton

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registration

19th Annual Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival

January 20 - 25, 2016 • Eastern Florida State College - Titusville Campus

Contact Information: Barbara Hoelscher 321-268-5888 or Neta Harris 321-268-5224

email barb@brevardnaturealliance.org or neta@brevardnaturealliance.org • Fax 321-268-0921

Please review the Registration Information below BEFORE completing this form.

USE ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER PERSON OR REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.SPACECOASTBIRDINGANDWILDLIFEFESTIVAL.ORG

Registration Information

All registration is on a first-come, first-served basis and processed in the order in which received. Register early to avoid missing out on a favorite field trip, presentation or special activity. Submit one registration per person/attendee. Payment may be made by check, money order, VISA, MasterCard, American Express or Discover Card. No debit or gift cards accepted.

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 checking "Wait" on this registration form or checking "Wait List" online. You must include your cell phone number for contact. First come, first served on all waiting lists. Wait List status does not imply that you are registered for an activity - **DO NOT INCLUDE WAIT LIST EVENTS IN YOUR PAYMENT!**

Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Registration Fee

- Full Festival Registration Fee is \$85. This includes entrance to all afternoon socials (value \$15 each) and as many \$10 classroom sessions as you wish to attend from Wednesday through Saturday. Classroom sessions will be first come first served.
- A One-day Festival Registration Fee is \$35.
- Registration fee is FREE if you are under age 12 and accompanied by an adult.
- You must register for the free activities listed on the registration form as participation is limited.
- YOU MUST HAVE your Festival ID Lanyard for entrance into the socials and the classroom sessions, otherwise you will be asked to pay for entrance.
- If you wish to pay as you go for individual classroom sessions and socials, you may pay at the time the activity takes place if space is available.
- Watch the Festival web site for updates on activities that are filled, reopened, or cancelled.

Register by Mail or Fax

To register by mail or fax, complete this form. Each person/attendee must register individually - make copies of this form as necessary. Please make a copy of your completed registration form for your own records. All registrations must be received by 5:00pm on Jan. 8, 2016. After that date, you may register at the Festival for any activities that are available. Registration by mail or fax will be confirmed by email or fax. No confirmations will be made after 5:00pm on Jan. 8, 2016.

Register Online

Go to www.spacecoastbirdingandwildlife festival.org for quick and secure online registration (for up to 2 persons) - follow the easy fill-in-the-blank instructions - then print activity confirmation and ID. Use your REGISTRATION # and follow instructions to replace and or add activities online. **Please note:** if you register with your iPhone or iPad and cannot print your confirmation, save your registration # and use to return to the registration program to print later.

Cancellations & Refunds

- Cancellations for the entire festival accepted by email ONLY through 5:00pm on Dec. 31, 2015.
- Cancellations made by 5:00pm on Dec. 31, 2015 will receive a full refund less a \$25 administration fee.
- Cancellations made by 5:00pm on Jan. 8, 2016 will receive a 50% refund less a \$25 administration fee.
- No refunds will be made for cancellations after Jan. 8, 2016 or for no-shows.
- 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 by check within 30-60 days after the Festival.

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

Attendee Name _____ Date _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State/District _____ Country _____ Zip _____ County _____

Phone _____ Cell _____ Fax _____

Email Address _____

Check applicable categories: ☐ Sponsor ☐ Speaker ☐ Trip Leader ☐ Exhibitor ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Under 12

Are you a first-time attendee? ☐ Yes ☐ No If no, how many times have you attended? _____

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 and at which hotel will you be staying? _____

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

Attendee Name _____

Date _____

Note: All activities are listed chronologically 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.**

Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2016

Birding & Wildlife Events

4:30am-12:00pm	St Sebastian River Preserve	\$65	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
5:30am-12:00pm	Tosohatchee 1	\$55	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
5:45am-11:30am	Lake Monroe CA	\$25	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:00am-11:30am	Marl Bed Flats	\$25	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:30am-12:00pm	R. Grissom Wetlands at Viera	\$55	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:30am-12:30pm	North Brevard Hot Spots	\$55	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:45am-11:30am	Turkey Creek Tract	\$45	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
7:30am-10:30am	Walk at Blue Heron Wetlands	\$25	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
8:00am-3:30pm	Wildflowers & Plants	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
8:00am-12:00pm	Birding by Impression	\$45	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
8:00am-11:00am	Thousand Islands Kayak Tour	\$40	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
1:00pm-3:00pm	Beginning Bird Walk at C of L	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
1:30pm-3:30pm	Nature Journaling Workshop	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
2:30pm-4:30pm	Historic Pritchard House	\$20	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
3:30pm-6:00pm	Gull Fly-in at Daytona Beach	\$40	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
4:00pm-6:00pm	Fox Lake Kayak Trip	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
5:45pm-8:00pm	Hatbill Road Owls	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:15pm-7:30pm	Keynote: Dr. Stephen W. Kress	\$20	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait

Thursday, Jan. 21, 2016

Birding & Wildlife Events

4:30am-12:00pm	St Sebastian River Preserve	\$65	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
5:30am-12:00pm	Tosohatchee 1	\$55	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
5:30am-4:30pm	Zellwood/Lake Apopka	\$85	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
5:45am-11:30am	Little Big Econ	\$25	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:00am-11:30am	Marl Bed Flats	\$25	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:30am-12:30pm	North Brevard Hot Spots	\$55	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:45am-11:30am	Salt Lake WMA/Seminole Ranch CA	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
7:30am-9:30am	Birding by Ear at EFS	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
8:00am-12:00pm	Beginning Birding at MINWR	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
8:00am-12:00pm	Waterfowl 101	\$30	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
8:00am-12:00pm	Beginning Shorebirds by Impression	\$45	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
8:00am-11:00am	Thousand Islands Kayak Tour	\$40	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
8:30am-10:30am	Florida Scrub-Jays at Cruickshank	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
9:00am-12:00pm	Dicerandra Scrub Walk	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
9:00am-11:00am	Scottsmeer Flatwoods	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
1:00pm-4:30pm	Gull ID at Brevard Landfill	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
1:30pm-4:30pm	Pioneer Hike to Pine Island CA	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
2:00pm-4:00pm	Reptiles of Enchanted Forest	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
2:30pm-4:30pm	Historic Pritchard House	\$20	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:30pm-9:00pm	Night Tour of Fox Lake	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:15pm-7:30pm	Keynote: Giff Beaton	\$15	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
7:45pm-8:45pm	Keynote: James Currie	\$15	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait

Photography Events

6:15am-10:00am	Amoruso: MINWR Photo FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
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Friday, Jan. 22, 2016

Birding & Wildlife Events

5:00am-4:00pm	Central Florida Specialties	\$85	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
5:30am-4:30pm	Zellwood/Lake Apopka	\$85	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
5:30pm-2:00pm	Tosohatchee II: The Wilder Side	\$65	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:30am-12:30pm	North Brevard Hot Spots	\$55	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:45am-11:30am	Salt Lake WMA/Seminole Ranch CA	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:45am-11:00am	Turkey Creek Tract	\$45	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
7:15am-11:30am	Bird Banding at Hal Scott	\$45	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
7:45am-12:00pm	Wings Over Florida: Hal Scott	\$15	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
8:00am-12:00pm	Adv. Shorebird by Impression	\$45	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
8:00am-10:00am	Malabar Scrub Hike	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
8:30am-5:00pm	Historic Sites of CNS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
8:30am-12:30pm	FL Scrub-Jay and Fire Ecology	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait

Photography Events

6:15am-9:30am	Buckler: Bird Photo Basics FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:30am-10:00am	Dow: Sunrise Birding/Photo FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:30am-10:00am	Slonina: Viera Wetlands FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:30am-9:00am	Gamez: Golden Hour FWS	\$90	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
7:30am-9:00am	Caldwell: Time Lapse FWS	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
7:30am-11:00am	Verma: Photowalk with Shiv, MINWR	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
10:00am-12:00pm	Caldwell: Time Lapse Class	\$40	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
10:30am-12:00pm	Ingraham: Intro to P&S Photo	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
10:30am-12:00pm	Colucci: Digital Boot Camp	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
10:30am-12:00pm	Meredith: HDR Imaging	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
10:30am-12:00pm	Akoubian: Wildlife Images	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
1:00pm-2:30pm	Meredith: Working with Textures	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
1:00pm-2:30pm	Dow: Head Shots	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
1:30pm-3:30pm	Ingraham: P&S Techniques FWS	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
2:30pm-6:00pm	Slonina: Black Point/Bio Lab FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
3:00pm-4:30pm	Taylor: Digiscoping with Phones	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
3:00pm-4:30pm	Buckler: Images of the Coast	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
3:00pm-6:00pm	Colucci: Birds/Sunset/Viera FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
3:00pm-5:30pm	Gamez: Birds in Flight FWS	\$90	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
3:30pm-5:00pm	Verma: Panasonic: Next Gen	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait

6:15am-10:00am	Meredith: Birds & Wildlife FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:30am-9:30am	Colucci: Sunrise at CB Pier	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:30am-9:00am	Gamez: Brdwtrchr to Phtgrphr FWS	\$90	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
7:30am-9:00am	Caldwell: Time Lapse FWS	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
8:00am-10:00am	Ingraham: Adv Modes P&S FWS	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
8:00am-11:00am	Wilson: Dgscpng with Robert FWS	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
8:00am-11:30am	Reynolds: Phtgrphy at Landfill FWS	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
10:00am-12:00pm	Caldwell: Time Lapse Class	\$40	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
10:00am-12:00pm	Matthews: Frog/Reptile Macro	\$125	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
10:30am-12:00pm	Slonina: Fund. of Landscape	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
10:30am-12:00pm	Buckler: Great Photo Ingredients	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
10:30am-12:30pm	Akoubian: Design/ Landscape	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
10:30am-12:30pm	Dow: Creative Flair	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
1:00pm-2:00pm	Amoruso: Basic Exposure	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
1:00pm-2:30pm	Karlson: Adv Photo: Flight	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
1:00pm-3:00pm	Matthews: Frog/Reptile Macro	\$125	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
2:30pm-3:30pm	Colucci: Flash Photography	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
2:30pm-6:00pm	Akoubian: Birds in Flight FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
2:30pm-6:00pm	Dow: Sunsets/Silhouettes FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
2:30pm-6:00pm	Slonina: Peacock's Pocket FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
2:30pm-6:00pm	Meredith: Sunset Birds/Wildlife FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
2:45pm-3:45pm	Heiberg: Bird Photography	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
3:00pm-5:30pm	Gamez: Consistent Exposure FWS	\$90	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
3:30pm-5:00pm	Buckler: Finalizing Your Vision	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
4:00pm-5:00pm	Heiberg: Digital Workflow	\$35	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
4:00pm-5:00pm	Lesak: Intro to Digiscoping	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
5:30pm-8:30pm	Thoman: Night Time Photo FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait

9:00am-4:30pm	Wildflowers & Plants	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
9:00am-11:30am	Fox Lake Trailer Tour	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
1:00pm-3:00pm	Beginning Bird Walk at CoL	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
1:30pm-3:30pm	Orienteering/Scavenger Hunt	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
3:30pm-6:00pm	Gull Fly-in at Daytona Beach	\$40	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
4:00pm-5:00pm	Greg Miller: After the Book	\$15	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:15am-7:30pm	Keynote: Karlson & Rosselet	\$20	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:30pm-8:30pm	Nocturnal Hike at EF	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait

Photography Events

5:45am-10:00am	Heiberg: Bio Lab Road FWS	\$70	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:00am-9:30am	Buckler: Sunrise Bird Photo FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:15am-9:30am	Colucci: Black Point Drive FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:15am-9:30am	Akoubian: Birds in Flight FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:30am-9:00am	Gamez: Golden Hour FWS	\$90	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
6:45am-10:00am	Amoruso: Viera Photo FWS	\$60	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait
7:00am-10:30am	Verma: Photowalk with Shiv, MINWR	Free	...	1st	...	2nd	...	Wait

Attendee Name _____

Date _____

Note: All activities are listed chronologically 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.**

Friday, Jan. 22, 2016 cont.

8:00am-11:30am	Reynolds: Photography/Landfill FWS.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
9:00am-11:30am	Meredith: Photo from Airboat.....	\$110	1st	2nd	Wait
10:00am-12:00pm	Matthews: Frog/Reptile Macro.....	\$125	1st	2nd	Wait
10:00am-12:00pm	Hug: Phone-ography.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
10:00am-12:00pm	Loughlin: Light & Shadow Found.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
10:00am-12:00pm	Caldwell: Close Up Patterns FWS.....	\$40	1st	2nd	Wait
10:30am-12:00pm	Ingraham: Intro to P&S Photo.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
10:30am-12:00pm	Taylor: Dgscpng with DSLRs.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
10:30am-12:00pm	Akoubian: Wildlife Images.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
10:30am-12:00pm	Dow: Creative Flair.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
10:30am-12:00pm	Slonina: Fund. Of Landscape.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
1:00pm-2:00pm	Amoruso: Landscape Photo.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait

1:00pm-3:00pm	Matthews: Frog/Reptile Macro.....	\$125	1st	2nd	Wait
1:00pm-2:30pm	Heiberg: Close Up Photo.....	\$45	1st	2nd	Wait
1:00pm-2:30pm	Slonina: Fund. Of Light Room.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
1:00am-3:30am	Meredith: Photo from Airboat.....	\$110	1st	2nd	Wait
1:30pm-3:30pm	Ingraham: P&S Techniques FWS.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
1:30pm-4:30pm	Taylor: Digiscoping FWS.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
2:30pm-5:00pm	Caldwell: Light Painting.....	\$40	1st	2nd	Wait
3:00pm-5:00pm	Hug: Phone-ography.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
3:00pm-6:00pm	Colucci: Bird/Sunset at Viera FWS.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait
3:00pm-5:30pm	Gamez: Brdwchr to Phtgrpr FWS.....	\$90	1st	2nd	Wait
3:30pm-5:00pm	Dow: Head Shots.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
3:30pm-5:00pm	Slonina: Gear for Nature Photo.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
5:30pm-8:30pm	Thoman: Night Time Photo FWS.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait

Saturday, Jan. 23, 2016

Birding & Wildlife Events

5:00am-4:00pm	Central Florida Specialties.....	\$85	1st	2nd	Wait
5:30am-4:30pm	Zellwood/Lake Apopka.....	\$85	1st	2nd	Wait
6:30am-12:30pm	Birding by Ear & Habitat.....	\$45	1st	2nd	Wait
6:30am-12:30pm	North Brevard Hot Spots.....	\$55	1st	2nd	Wait
6:30am-12:00pm	R. Grissom Wetlands at Viera.....	\$55	1st	2nd	Wait
6:45am-11:00am	eBird Walk at Blue Heron.....	\$25	1st	2nd	Wait
7:15am-11:30am	Bird Banding at Hal Scott.....	\$45	1st	2nd	Wait
7:15am-10:30am	Sea-birding from Shore.....	\$30	1st	2nd	Wait
7:30am-10:30am	Drive at Blue Heron Wetlands.....	\$25	1st	2nd	Wait
7:45am-12:00pm	Wings Over Florida: Hal Scott.....	\$15	1st	2nd	Wait
8:00am-12:00pm	Waterfowl 101.....	\$30	1st	2nd	Wait
8:00am-10:00am	Beginning Bird Walk at EF.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
8:30am-12:30pm	FL Scrub-Jay and Fire Ecology.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
8:30am-5:00pm	Beach Birds Intro & Field Trip.....	\$50	1st	2nd	Wait
9:00am-11:00am	Forest Biodiversity.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
9:15am-10:45am	Barn Owl Pellet Dissection.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
10:30am-11:30am	Sam's House Eagle Families.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
12:00pm-2:00pm	Plants & Their Uses Thru History.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
12:30pm-4:30pm	Beginning Birding at MINWR.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
1:00pm-2:30pm	eBird Class Workshop.....	\$15	1st	2nd	Wait
2:00pm-5:30pm	Afternoon Hayride on MINWR.....	\$20	1st	2nd	Wait
6:15pm-7:30pm	Keynote: Steve N. G. Howell.....	\$20	1st	2nd	Wait
8:30pm-8:30pm	Owl Prowl at Sam's House.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait

Photography Events

5:30am-9:00am	Amoruso: Sunrise at CNS FWS.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait
5:45am-10:00am	Heiberg: Bio Lab Road FWS.....	\$70	1st	2nd	Wait

6:00am-12:00pm	Buckler: Crafting Spect Images FWS.....	\$95	1st	2nd	Wait
6:15am-10:00am	Meredith: Birds & Wildlife FWS.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait
6:30am-9:00am	Gamez: Birds in Flight FWS.....	\$90	1st	2nd	Wait
6:30am-10:00am	Dow: Birding & Photo FWS.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait
6:30am-11:00am	Karlson: Adv. Flight/Action FWS.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait
8:00am-10:00am	Ingraham: Adv Modes P&S FWS.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
8:00am-11:00am	Taylor: Digiscoping FWS.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
10:00am-12:00pm	Matthews: Frog/Reptile Macro.....	\$125	1st	2nd	Wait
10:00am-12:00pm	Hug: Phone-ography.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
10:00am-12:00pm	Caldwell: Close Up Patterns FWS.....	\$40	1st	2nd	Wait
10:30am-12:00pm	Akoubian: Make Most of Macro.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
10:30am-12:00pm	Slonina: Fund. Wildlife Photo.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
10:30am-12:00pm	Colucci: Advanced Digital Tips.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
11:30am-2:00pm	Meredith: Photo from Airboat.....	\$110	1st	2nd	Wait
1:00pm-2:00pm	Amoruso: Equipment Q&A.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
1:00pm-2:30pm	Ingraham: Post Processing for P&S.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
1:00pm-3:00pm	Matthews: Frog/Reptile Macro.....	\$125	1st	2nd	Wait
1:00pm-3:00pm	Karlson: Shooting Outside Box.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
2:30pm-5:00pm	Caldwell: Light Painting.....	\$40	1st	2nd	Wait
2:30pm-6:00pm	Akoubian: Birds in Flight FWS.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait
2:30pm-6:00pm	Dow: Sunsets/Silhouettes FWS.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait
2:30pm-6:00pm	Slonina: Black Point FWS.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait
3:00pm-6:00pm	Colucci: Birds/Sunset/Viera FWS.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait
3:00pm-5:30pm	Gamez: Field Techniques FWS.....	\$90	1st	2nd	Wait
3:00pm-5:00pm	Hug: Phone-ography.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
3:30pm-5:00pm	Meredith: Topaz Plug-ins.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
3:30pm-5:00pm	Buckler: Images of the Coast.....	\$35	1st	2nd	Wait
5:30pm-8:30pm	Thoman: Night Time Photo FWS.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait

Sunday, Jan. 24, 2016

Birding & Wildlife Events

5:00am-1:00pm	Lake Woodruff NWR.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait
5:15am-12:00pm	RCWs at Hal Scott Preserve.....	\$55	1st	2nd	Wait
6:00am-11:30am	Marl Bed Flats.....	\$25	1st	2nd	Wait
6:30am-12:00pm	R. Grissom Wetlands at Viera.....	\$55	1st	2nd	Wait
6:30am-12:30pm	Birding by Ear & Habitat.....	\$45	1st	2nd	Wait
7:00am-10:00am	Pish Free Birding.....	\$30	1st	2nd	Wait
7:15am-10:30am	Sea-birding from Shore.....	\$30	1st	2nd	Wait
7:30am-10:30am	Walk at Blue Heron Wetlands.....	\$25	1st	2nd	Wait
8:00am-12:00pm	Birding by Impression.....	\$45	1st	2nd	Wait
8:00am-12:00pm	Waterfowl 101.....	\$30	1st	2nd	Wait
8:30am-10:30am	Florida Scrub-Jays at Cruickshank.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait

1:30pm-5:00pm	Adult for Sunday Social.....	\$40	1st	2nd	Wait
1:30pm-5:00pm	Child for Sunday Social.....	\$5	1st	2nd	Wait

Photography Events

5:45am-10:00am	Heiberg: Bio Lab Road FWS.....	\$70	1st	2nd	Wait
6:15am-10:00am	Meredith: Birds & Wildlife FWS.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait
6:15am-10:00am	Slonina: Blue Heron FWS.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait
6:30am-10:00am	Dow: Birding & Photo FWS.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait
6:30am-9:00am	Colucci: Sunrise at CB Pier.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait
6:30am-9:00am	Gamez: Birds in Flight.....	\$90	1st	2nd	Wait
7:30am-10:30am	Buckler: Shorebird Photo.....	\$60	1st	2nd	Wait
8:00am-11:00am	Wilson: Dgscpng with Robert FWS.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
8:00am-12:00pm	Ingraham: P&S Nature Photo FWS.....	Free	1st	2nd	Wait
10:30am-12:30pm	Caldwell: Close-up Patterns FWS.....	\$40	1st	2nd	Wait
3:00pm-5:30pm	Gamez: Manual Exposure.....	\$90	1st	2nd	Wait

Sunday, Jan. 24, 2016

This Special Event will not be charged to your credit card, check or money order cashed until the trip begins.

7:00am-1:00pm	Offshore Birding & Wildlife Adventure.....	\$80	1st	2nd	Wait
7:00am-1:00pm	Akoubian: Offshore Photography.....	\$150	1st	2nd	Wait

(includes Offshore Birding & Wildlife Adventure fee)

Monday, Jan. 25, 2016

This Special Event will not be charged to your credit card, check or money order cashed until the trip begins.

7:00am-1:00pm	Offshore Birding & Wildlife Adventure.....	\$80	1st	2nd	Wait
7:00am-1:00pm	Akoubian: Offshore Photography.....	\$150	1st	2nd	Wait

(includes Offshore Birding & Wildlife Adventure fee)

Attendee Name _____ Date _____

Payment Information - Registration plus Activities

Check, Money Order, VISA, MasterCard, American Express or Discover Card. Please, No Gift Cards

Registration Fee (includes all Afternoon Socials and unlimited \$10 Classroom Presentations) \$85.00

One-Day Registration Fee (includes one Afternoon Social and unlimited \$10 Classroom Presentations on that day) \$35.00

Registration Fee is FREE if you are under age 12 and accompanied by an adult. FREE

Wait List status does not imply that you are registered for an activity - DO NOT INCLUDE WAIT LIST EVENTS IN YOUR PAYMENT!

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

Driver's Lic. # & State _____ ***(Required for Florida Scrub-Jay & Fire Ecology tours!)***

☐ Check Number _____ ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover CardholderName _____

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

Security Code (3 digits, AMEX 4 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 - Offshore Birding Trip

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

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

Make checks or money order payable to BNA/SCBWF.

Mail to: Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival, P.O. Box 517, Titusville, FL 32781-0517.

ALL REGISTRATIONS MUST ARRIVE BEFORE JAN. 8, 2016.

For quick and secure registration, go to

www.spacecoastbirdingandwildlifefestival.org and register online.

Liability Waiver & Photo Release

Note: A parent or guardian must sign for a child under 18 years of age.

I agree and expressly acknowledge, as a registrant for the 2016 Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival, conducted by the Brevard Nature Alliance, that I am fully aware that such events can involve certain risks and dangers that include, but are not limited to, accidents, personal injury, hazards of traveling, damage to or loss of personal property, or illness, could occur as a result of participation in this event. In exchange for the right to participate in the Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival, I do hereby waive, release and hold harmless the Brevard Nature Alliance, its agents, employees, instructors, directors, sponsors, volunteers, and any contractors or subcontractors hired in connection with the Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival. ***Please check the appropriate box, Print and Sign your name below:***

☐ Yes, I agree to these conditions. Please print your full name here _____

☐ No, I do not agree to these conditions. Please sign this document here _____

Staff photographers will be documenting the 2016 Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival (SCBWF). The SCBWF reserves the right to use photographs of SCBWF participants taken during this event for the purposes of advertising and promoting the SCBWF and its programs. ***Anyone who does not wish to comply with this policy should indicate this by checking the "NO" box below by notifying Festival Staff at the registration desk upon arrival. Please check the appropriate box, Print and Sign your name below:***

☐ Yes, I agree to these conditions. Please print your full name here _____

☐ No, I do not agree to these conditions. Please sign this document here _____

Sun., Jan. 24



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providing outstanding nature
programs to the public.

This cannot happen without you.

Enjoy the Festival and don't miss
my keynote talk

"Indian River Legacy"

at the Sunday Social at
beautiful Fox Lake Park
on January 24.

For an exciting time (weather permitting),
join us on the
Offshore Birding and Wildlife Adventure
boat trips.

**You will never get
closer to working fishing boats."**

Laurilee Thompson

Founder

Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival

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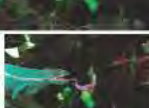
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classroom presentations

After the Book. After the Movie. What's Next?

Jan. 22, 4:00pm-5:00pm; AUD; Limit 150 Registrants; \$15

Greg Miller (Wildside Nature Tours)

Field guides have empowered birders for years by making valuable identification information available in a format that is easy to use in the field. Field guides have been responsible for a surge in the popularity of birding. They have transformed how we bird. eBird is a Citizen Science project that stores birders' checklists from around the world in an online database. There are currently over 16 million checklists in this database for North America alone. But how can this help a birder? Many birders are faced with more demanding schedules that allow them fewer free moments. How can a birder make the most out of smaller windows of time? Are you going on a trip that just might involve looking at birds somewhere along the way? Do you want to know the best place and time to look for birds near your home? Greg's new, free, online *Impatient Birder's Guide to North America* is a good place to start. Your field guides help you with identification. *The Impatient Birder's Guide* will help you with the where and when in planning a birding adventure. He has made it simple for you to utilize the data from 16 million checklists. Greg believes it will transform how we bird in the future just like the introduction of field guides changed birding in the past. Come and see how it's done.

Amazing Birds & Wildlife of North Carolina's Outer Banks

Jan. 21 & 22, 1:00pm-2:00pm; AUD; Limit 150 Registrants; \$10

Mark Buckler (Mark Buckler Photography)

The Outer Banks of NC is a popular summer vacation destination because of its spectacular beaches. However, the Outer Banks region also offers spectacular birding opportunities and wildlife displays throughout the entire year. In the winter months, millions of ducks, geese and swans call this area home while the summer months host innumerable shorebirds and waterbirds. Nearly 75% of the eastern Tundra Swan population winter here (30,000 of them on a single lake) and a flock of nearly 100,000 Snow Geese can be seen blasting off at a local refuge. With 8 National Wildlife Refuges, 2 National Seashores, several NC State Parks and many other natural areas, eastern North Carolina is a birding and wildlife viewing spectacle that many are unaware of. Mark Buckler, a professional nature photographer and former wildlife biologist, will share his stunning images of the landscapes, wildlife and birds of this area.

Barn Owls: Nature's Mousetrap

Jan. 22, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 119; Limit 40 Registrants; Free

Jan. 23, 11:00am-12:00pm; AUD; Limit 150 Registrants; Free

Dr. Richard Raid (University of Florida)

Since 1994, the University 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 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 as a separate activity. 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. 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.

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

Jan. 23, 9:15am-10:45am; AUD; Limit 24 Registrants; Free

Dr. Richard Raid (University of Florida)

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, registrants 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 registrants free of charge.

Bat Chat: An Introduction to Echolocation

Jan. 23, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 119; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Shari Blissett-Clark (Bat Belfrys Inc; Florida Bat Conservancy)

Most of us are familiar with the typical sounds of the night: crickets chirping, katydids calling and the occasional owl hooting. But our ears are not capable of picking up some of the most fascinating and pervasive night sounds: the ultrasonic echolocation calls of bats. Bats have been navigating the night skies for more than 50 million years but it's only been recently that researchers have begun to understand and appreciate just how sophisticated their navigation system is. This program introduces echolocation and uses recorded bat calls and live demonstrations by Florida bats to reveal the critical role it plays in a bat's life. Suitable for families with school-aged children.

Bats: Myth & Reality

Jan. 23, 11:00am-12:00pm; 119; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Shari Blissett-Clark (Bat Belfrys Inc, Florida Bat Conservancy)

This colorful program uses high resolution photography and research results to debunk commonly-believed myths and misconceptions that have plagued bats for centuries. Unfounded fear of these beneficial mammals, often fueled by grossly over-stated disease risk, myth, and ignorance, are major contributors to the dramatic decline in bat populations world-wide. This program exposes the fascinating truth about bats and discusses species diversity, the environmental and economic benefits of bats and disease risks. A brief question period will follow the presentation and attendees will have the opportunity to meet live Florida bats. Suitable for families with school-aged children.

Behavior & Migration of Sharks in East Florida & Beyond
Jan. 23, 1:00pm-2:00pm; AUD; Limit 150 Registrants; \$10
Eric Reyier (Kennedy Space Center Ecological Program)

Resolving the behavior of sharks and other marine fish species has long been hindered by the difficulty of tracking individual animals over long periods through the open ocean. Recent advances in acoustic telemetry technology, and a growing collaboration of marine science organizations, now allows the movements of tagged animals to be tracked for many years. In this talk, we will introduce the Florida Atlantic Coast Telemetry (FACT) Array and how scientists are using it to finally detail the habitat preferences and migrations of sharks in east Florida and throughout the southeastern United States.



Wilson's Phalarope Mono Lake. Photo by Marie Read.

Birding California's Desert Sea: Mono Lake

Jan. 20, 1:00pm-2:00pm; AUD; Limit 150 Registrants; \$10
Jan. 22, 2:30pm-3:30pm; AUD; Limit 150 Registrants; \$10
Marie Read (Marie Read Wildlife Photography)

Nationally known bird photographer/author, Marie Read, takes us on a journey to California's Eastern Sierra, exploring the birdlife of Mono Lake and the surrounding basin. Marie's stunning photography reveals the fascinating lives of the birds that breed at or migrate through this spectacular birding hotspot, which is a Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network site of International Importance. Iconic Mono Lake is famous for bizarre tufa towers rising from its surface, and highly saline and alkaline water. Teeming brine shrimp and alkali flies attract huge numbers of breeding and migratory birds, including California Gulls, Wilson's and Red-necked phalaropes, and Eared Grebes. The surrounding sagebrush scrub, pinyon-juniper, Jeffrey pine and conifer-aspen forests support many other species. Delve into the hidden lives of birds such as Pinyon Jay, Violet-green Swallow, Sage Thrasher, Lewis's and Black-backed Woodpeckers, and American Dipper. Enjoy Marie's stories from the field and learn how she obtained some of the behavior and action shots featured in her book *Sierra Wings: Birds of the Mono Lake Basin*. Signed copies will be available for purchase.

Birding South Florida

Jan. 22, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 116; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10
Jan. 23, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 116; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10
Tom Dunkerton (Opticron, Wildside Nature Tours)

South Florida is home to a number of species found nowhere else in the North America, including Mangrove Cuckoo, Black-whiskered Vireo, Short-tailed Hawk, Shiny Cowbird, Smooth-billed Ani, Snail Kite and the state's only endemic, Florida Scrub-Jay. Join Tom Dunkerton,

of Opticron, and Wildside Nature Tours' newest trip leader, on a photographic journey to learn more about where and when to locate many of the birds you seek for your ABA list!



Cuban Pygmy Owl. Photo by Larry Manfredi.

Birds of Cuba

Jan. 20, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 119; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10
Jan. 23, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 121; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10
Larry Manfredi (South Florida Birding)

Join us on a photographic journey to see the wonderful birds found on the island of Cuba! 354 species of birds have been recorded in Cuba and the island has no less than 21 endemic species, including the Bee Hummingbird, and 6 endemic genera. It's an extraordinary place for wildlife, natural areas, and historic preservation. In this presentation you will also see some of the other sights in Cuba; the famous old American cars and some scenic countryside as well as the city of Havana.

Butterflies of Central Florida

Jan. 22, 1:00pm-2:30pm; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10
John Serrao (Naturalist)

Off Site - This presentation takes place at the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. If weather permits, the presentation may be followed by a brief outdoor excursion to obtain close-up views of some local butterflies.

Florida has one of the highest diversities of butterflies in the United States. In this program, more than 80 species are highlighted, ranging from our country's smallest - the eastern pigmy blue - to two of the largest - the eastern tiger and giant swallowtails. This program not only emphasizes the beautiful diversity of colors and patterns exhibited by our butterflies, but also many of their caterpillars, their host plants, and some of their predators. In addition, a few other impressive local Lepidoptera are shown - moths that are just as beautiful and in some cases even larger than our butterflies. See enormous regal, polyphemus, and imperial moths, including photos of the regal moth's larva - our country's biggest caterpillar, the "Hickory Horned Devil."

Color of Birds: In Celebration of a Passion

Jan. 20, 2:15pm-3:15pm; AUD; Limit 150 Registrants; \$10
Kevin Loughlin (Wildside Nature Tours)

Feathers are what make a bird, a bird. From the tiniest of hummingbirds

to the magnificent Jabiru, feathers give birds protection from the elements, enabling them to live in every environment from the icy landscape of Antarctica, to the deserts of the American southwest, to the rainforests of the Amazon Basin. Kevin Loughlin, owner of Wildside Nature Tours, has spent decades photographing the natural world, especially the birds. Through images created during his many travels throughout the western hemisphere, Kevin will share his passion for these amazing creatures we call birds, while discussing their natural history, naming and other interesting tidbits. The basis for Kevin's next book project, his images carry the viewer through colors, or lack of, from birds that are black, white or gray, often with a splash of color, through birds of earth-tones, camouflaged for their surroundings, to brightly colored birds of primary red, blue and yellow and secondary green, purple and orange and combinations that verge on the gaudy. Kevin's final step will show that color is not the only requirement for beauty and that even a bird of little color can be elegant and alluring.

Connecting Communities through Citizen Science & Environmental Stewardship: Three Hemispheric Conservation Initiatives

Jan. 21, 2:30pm-3:45pm; 119; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Jan. 23, 1:00pm-2:15pm; 119; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Dr. Bill Hilton Jr., Dr. Robert Norton and Julie Wraithmell; Moderated by Debbie Sturdivant Jordan of Holbrook Travel

Audubon's International Alliances Program

Aiming to create a network of community-based birding destinations across the hemisphere, National Audubon Society and the Multilateral Investment Fund, a member of the Inter-American Development Bank group, have partnered on a \$2.6 million project with NGOs in five countries to create sustainable jobs in communities while simultaneously protecting biodiversity and natural resources. Julie Wraithmell is Audubon Florida's Director of Wildlife Conservation. She leads Audubon's coastal stewardship, wildlife and conservation land policy programs in Florida. Her efforts have helped to position Audubon as the state leader of coastal bird conservation.

Christmas Bird Count in Cuba

Learn from Dr. Robert Norton how U.S. citizen scientists are helping Cubans with their annual Christmas Bird Count. Robert Norton is an author, educator, and wildlife biologist with many years of field research experience that includes working for the ecological field station on St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands and the National Parks Trust at Tortola, British Virgin Islands. Robert is also an expert on tropical and neotropical birds. He co-authored *An Inventory of Breeding Seabirds of the Caribbean* and is an editor for the West Indies region of the American Birding Association's (ABA) "North American Birds" reports.

Operation RubyThroat: The Hummingbird Project

Since 1984, Dr. Bill Hilton Jr. has banded more than 5,200 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds at his home base at Hilton Pond Center for Piedmont Natural History (www.hiltonpond.org) near York, SC. Following ruby-throats from their breeding grounds in the eastern U.S. and southern Canada, in 2004 Hilton began leading citizen science groups to Central America; there he became the first scientist to systematically study ruby-throats on their wintering grounds. In 25 expeditions to Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Nicaragua, Hilton has banded another 1,200-plus ruby-throats and has uncovered secrets about the species' migration, site fidelity, and longevity in Neotropical locales where these tiny birds spend the OTHER half of the year. www.rubythroat.org

eBird Classroom Workshop

Jan. 23, 1:00pm-2:30pm; Limit 24 Registrants; \$15

Jason Guerard (Florida Ornithological Society)

Off Site - This workshop takes place in the Conference Room at the Fairfield Inn Marriott, Titusville.

Note: Bring your phone, iPad or laptop to this workshop. You may want to register for the companion field trip on page 18. WiFi available.

eBird has become the go to resource for keeping your bird observations in one easy to use database. It's a wealth of information and an increasingly powerful tool that is useful to birders on a local, state and national level. In this classroom portion of the eBird workshop we will use our observation counts from the Blue Heron Wetlands field trip to discuss the data submission process. Discussion will include data entry tips and shortcuts. We will explore the various types of data output available (maps, bar charts, graphs and count data, etc.) and how we as birders can use this data to further our personal knowledge of avian status and distribution locally and nationally. Jason will discuss how scientists use the data we submit to eBird and how eBird is useful to the traveling birder and those searching to find specific species in their own region. We will explain the use of list keeping phone applications and their interaction with the eBird data base.



Necromancer. Photo by Steve N. G. Howell.

Fish that Fly: The Amazing World of Flyingfish

Jan. 23, 3:30pm-3:50pm; AUD; Limit 150 Registrants; \$10

Steve N. G. Howell

Imagine you're on a ship sailing through from New Zealand to Japan. Unless you're criminally blind, sooner or later you'll start to notice flyingfish (written as one word, according to biologists). You have a camera, and snap some images. The more you look, the more different types you see, but there's no field guide on the ship for flyingfish, so you put names to them yourself. You start to map their distribution by latitude and water temperature, and suddenly you have the basis of a primitive natural history study. It's like living hundreds of years ago, in the age of discovery and naming things. How cool is that? In this short talk, Steve offers an informal, illustrated overview of some of the things he's learned about flyingfish over his years in the tropical oceans, which formed the basis for his popular book, *The Amazing World of Flyingfish*.

Florida Grasshopper Sparrow - Going, going, going,...

Jan. 20, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 121; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Jan. 22, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 116; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10

Jim Cox (Tall Timbers Research Station & Land Conservancy)

The Florida Grasshopper Sparrow is a critically endangered bird found only in the distinctive prairies of south central Florida. Public lands collectively supported over 1000 individuals as recently as 2001, but

these populations began to decline soon thereafter and today have fallen by more than 90%. The steep declines occurred despite intensive research and monitoring efforts, and scientist have been struggling to find a solution. Fire is a key management tool used to maintain suitable habitat conditions, but the frequency, timing, and extent of fires used to manage sparrow habitat may play a role in recent population declines.

Jim Cox, Director of the Stoddard Bird Lab at Tall Timbers Research Station & Land Conservancy, has been assisting with sparrow recovery efforts since 2012. Cox helped to develop a research project designed to assess the effects that prescribed fires might be having on one sparrow population. He also organized a special workshop where habitat conditions were assessed and management recommendations developed for one of the former hotspots. Currently, Cox is testing procedures that might be used should captive breeding be initiated. This projects takes advantage of a non-endangered subspecies of Grasshopper Sparrow population that occurs on an old World War II airfield in southwest Georgia. The site is slowly being converted to an industrial park and solar farm, so it serves as a great source for testing different techniques. Jim taught a popular bird-watching class at Florida State University for many years and loves introducing people to joy of birding.

Florida's Beach-nesting Birds: Biology & Conservation Efforts

Jan. 21, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 119; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Jan. 22, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 118; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10

Heather Hitt & Alex Kropp (Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission)

Florida is home to a wide variety of beach-nesting shorebirds and seabirds from Snowy Plovers and American Oystercatchers to Black Skimmers and Least Terns. These species face many challenges nesting on our Florida beaches from development and human disturbance to predation. This presentation will cover the biology of these birds and conservation efforts currently taking place to protect them. There will be discussion of the Florida Shorebird Alliance, which includes 12 regional partnerships statewide (including the Space Coast Partnership) and is a key conservation initiative for monitoring and protecting these species. The Space Coast Shorebird Partnership consists of approximately 15 core volunteers who monitor much of Brevard County's coastline, spoil islands, rooftops, and even construction sites for beach-nesting bird activity. Nesting species found in the area usually consist of Least Terns, Black Skimmers, Wilson's Plovers, Brown Pelicans, American Oystercatchers and Black-necked Stilts. We are always looking for more volunteers to help monitor Brevard's 72 miles of coastline, numerous spoil islands, and over 30 rooftop sites for beach-nesting bird activity.

Florida Raptors - Part I: Vultures through Accipiters

Jan. 21, 3:30pm-5:00pm; 121; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Jason Guerard (Florida Ornithological Society)

There are 21 species of diurnal raptors, including both species of vultures, that are regularly found in Florida. Hawks are frequently described as difficult to identify. It takes considerable hours with binoculars pointed skyward to hone skills necessary to identify a raptor that is a speck on the horizon or high in the sky. Join Jason who continually studies and has counted hawks at some of the nation's best hawk watching locales. The focus of this presentation will be on close range and distant flight identification using shape, silhouette and flight style. we will discuss migration strategies and routes, status in Florida, identification references, plumage and general life history. There will be a quiz to assess your new found hawk identification skills. Part I will cover vultures, kites, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier and the

eternally vexing Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks. On January 22 Jason will present Florida Raptors - Part II: Buteos through Falcons. These sessions can equip you with knowledge to spend a day as an official counter at your local hawk watch site.



Merlin. Photo by Mark Buckler.

Florida Raptors - Part II: Buteos through Falcons

Jan. 22, 3:30pm-5:00pm; 121; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Jason Guerard (Florida Ornithological Society)

This presentation follows the Florida Raptors Part I: Vultures through Accipiters classroom presentation. As hawks are acknowledged as difficult to identify as a speck raptor on the horizon or high in the sky, join Jason as he guides you through his focus on close range and distant flight identification using shape, silhouette and flight style. Also, Jason will discuss migration strategies and routes, status in Florida, identification references, plumage and general life history. There will be a quiz to asses your new found hawk identification skills. Today the buteos, falcons, Golden Eagle, and Crested Caracara will be covered. This session will help you develop further knowledge for your hawk searches and counts.

Florida's Snakes: Corals & Coachwhips, Indigos & Scarlets, Pit Vipers & Pythons

Jan. 23, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 131; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10

John Serrao (Naturalist)

Florida is famous for its diversity of reptiles, and since the 1980s John Serrao has been photographing and documenting them, from the panhandle's ravines to the central scrub and highland ridge to the Everglades. This presentation features more than 35 of Florida's snakes,



King Snake. Photo by Mike Matthews.

the environmentally endangered lands program

Brevard County Florida

including all 6 venomous species. It includes amazing photos of the largest Indigo snake documented in our country in at least 40 years (found by John in 2013 in Volusia County) as well as snakes ranging from 6-foot to 7-foot long coachwhips and eastern diamondback rattlesnakes to 8-inch long crowned snakes (our country's smallest native snake). John not only shows how to identify these beautiful animals but also their important roles as predators in Florida's ecosystems. He also emphasizes the critical needs to educate the public to stop needlessly killing snakes and to preserve large expanses of natural land to ensure their survival.

Galapagos: Ecuador's Enchanted Islands

Jan. 20, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 119; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Jan. 21, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 119; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Jan. 23, 11:00am-12:00pm; 131; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10

Reinier Munguia (Wildstock Photography; Holbrook Travel)

Some 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador in the Pacific Ocean, life has found a way not only to survive, but to thrive, despite sometimes harsh terrain and precarious environmental conditions. The archipelago is famous among nature and wildlife lovers for its unique inhabitants: giant tortoises, the world's only ocean-going lizard, curious and endemic Galapagos fur seals, plus iconic birds like the Blue-footed Booby, Flightless Cormorant, Galapagos Penguin, and more than a dozen species of Darwin's finches, all amidst breathtaking vistas. Join Reinier Munguia—professional photographer, founder of Wildstock Photography, and president of Lake Region Audubon Society in Winter Haven, Florida—for this informative introduction to the islands, their geological background, history, ecology, marine environments, their legacy of human interaction, and the modern-day lifestyle in Galapagos' most populous town, Puerto Ayora. View stunning, finely detailed photos of the islands, their landscapes, and their flora and fauna as Reinier discusses ecotourism, issues facing the islands today, and the measures needed to keep the Galapagos as pristine as possible going forward. Learn why these "Enchanted Islands" are like no place else on Earth.

How Birders Can Unlock the Mysteries of Bird Migration

Jan. 22, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 116; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10

Jan. 23, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 131; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10

Julie Wraithmell (Audubon Florida)

In order to save declining species of migratory birds, conservationists have to understand their complex travels - where they go, how they get there, where they stop along the way, what habitats they depend upon, and the careful timing of these artful migrations. Yet following an individual bird thousands of miles, across oceans and often under cover of darkness, is no small order! Accordingly, ornithologists have had to craft some pretty inventive techniques to piece together the globetrotting travels of long-distance migrants - including the banding of birds. Like tossing a message in a bottle into the sea of migration, biologists place unique bands on the legs of birds, knowing that every time that bird is re-sighted elsewhere in its travels, another piece in the puzzle of its migration falls into place. Join Audubon Florida's Director of Wildlife Conservation, Julie Wraithmell, to learn how citizen scientists just like you are helping to unlock the mysteries of migration with their own sightings, at sites around Florida and throughout our hemisphere.

Imperiled Birds of Central Florida

Jan. 21, 4:00pm-5:00pm; AUD; Limit 150 Registrants; \$10

Adam Kent (Florida Ornithological Society) & Gina Kent (Avian Research Conservation Initiative)

The "EEL" Program was established in 1990 by Brevard County citizens to protect the natural habitats by acquiring environmentally sensitive lands, from willing parties only, for conservation, passive recreation, and environmental education.

Mission

Protect and preserve biological diversity through responsible stewardship of Brevard County's natural resources.

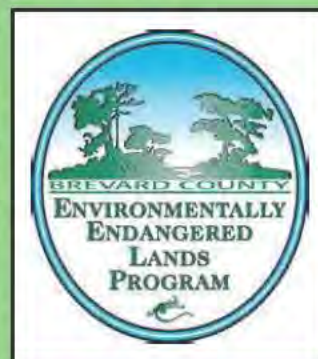
Vision

The Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program acquires, protects and maintains environmentally endangered lands guided by scientific principles for conservation and the best available practices for resources, stewardship and ecosystem management.

The EEL Program protects the rich biological diversity of Brevard County for future generations.

The EEL Program provides passive recreation and environmental education opportunities to Brevard's citizens and visitors without detracting from the primary conservation goals of the program.

The EEL Program encourages active citizen participation and community involvement.



Service

Please visit the EEL website for information for you, your family, your classes and schools, your community:

<http://www.brevardcounty.us/EELProgram/Home>

Please see this Festival Program magazine for several classroom presentations and field trips that include hiking, birdwatching, Florida history, journaling, kayaking and more!



Florida Scrub-Jay at South Lake CA, An EEL property. Photo by DeeAnn Jennings Kiesel.

classroom presentations

3rd annual family scavenger hunt

Saturday, Jan. 24, 11:00am-4:00pm

We're super excited! The BNA, along with the Space Coast Chapter of the Audubon Society and the Young Birders of Brevard, we will have our 2nd Annual Family Scavenger Hunt.

Stop by the Space Coast Audubon Society booth to pick up a bird checklist. Search for bird photos randomly placed at assorted booths throughout the exhibit hall. Have fun and see how many birds you can locate and identify. Check off the bird and write the booth number on your list and return your list to the Space Coast Audubon booth. Each family will receive a gift for their participation.

Hurry In! Space is limited.

make your own bird feeder

Sponsored by Ace Hardware - 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 it with birdseed and finding a good spot for hanging your new feeder in a tree at home. These free supplies will be located in the lobby.



Kayaks by Bo



hobie kayak demonstrations

Jan. 22, 12:00pm-3:00pm; Chain of Lakes, Titusville; Free
Meet at Chain of Lakes Park – From Eastern Florida State College, turn north on US 1 and go to the first traffic light – turn east on Truman Scarborough Way – follow this road to the entrance of the park and turn right to go to the lake nearest the soccer fields. Signs will direct you where to park.

Kayaks by Bo will have an array of Hobie kayaks for you to "kick the tires" and see how you fit in one of these well-made and outstanding performance kayaks. Tom Altif (Kayaks by Bo) and others will be available to assist you and answer your questions.

Participation is free with no registration required.

Why are there so many rare birds in Central Florida? How many of these species are regularly found during Space Coast Birding Festival trips? Come hear about some of the fascinating imperiled bird species that can be found within a short drive of Titusville. In addition to more than a half dozen federally listed species, we'll also learn about the many other birds listed as imperiled by state and international organizations. Central Florida is one of the best places in the US to find rare birds and we'll talk about success stories as well as a few species that haven't fared as well. This talk will give you background information on how and why birds are listed by different organizations and agencies and what's being done to protect them now. Plus, many of these birds are seen during festival field trips!

Learning Gull Identification

Jan. 20 & 22, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 121; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Amar Ayyash (Blogger/Speaker)

Often approached with apprehension, gulls have gained a love-hate relationship with many birders. Among the larids are some of the most coveted bird species in the world, but recent genetic data and frequent hybridization in this family compel us to reassess the very concept of a species. Amar will touch on these topics as he highlights key identification field marks for separating our winter gull species. He'll also touch on some of the often ignored topics in gull-study such as the aging process and molt. Come learn why an increasing number of people are being drawn to this family of birds and are eagerly calling themselves "larophiles".



Dolphin with the tracking device. Photo by Megan Stolen.

Life & Times of Indian River Dolphins

Jan. 23, 2:15pm-3:15pm; AUD; Limit 150 Registrants; \$10

Megan Stolen (Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute)

The Indian River Lagoon is home to a resident population of bottlenose dolphins which are born, grow up and eventually die without leaving the lagoon. They have been studied since the late 70's but much about their lives remains a puzzle. In this talk, we will discuss some of the myths about dolphins and some of the mysteries surrounding unusual die-offs that have recently been making news. We will introduce you to some of the "cast of characters" and tell you about their life history. You'll get a glimpse into the research underway in laboratories and in the field and see how a CSI approach to stranded animals may hold the key to solving some of the burning questions that are just waiting to be answered. We will talk about the current threats to lagoon dolphins and what you can do to help them. Come into our lab, aboard our boat and into a super cold freezer with us and get to know YOUR local dolphins. Megan Stolen is a research scientist at HSWRI. The focus of her research is on stranded whales and dolphins, particularly dolphins of the Indian River lagoon system.

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Life Through a Lens

Jan. 21, 2:30pm-3:30pm; AUD; Limit 150 Registrants; \$10

Jan. 23, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 118; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10

Marie Read (Marie Read Wildlife Photography)

A lifetime of watching bird behavior opened up a new world for bird photographer/author Marie Read. She'll share stunning photos (and videos), including some from her latest book *Into The Nest* (co-authored with Laura Erickson), to illustrate how understanding bird behavior improves your bird photography. You'll discover tips and techniques to create bird photos that stand out from the crowd. Noticing bird behavior also helps you be a better birder and makes your observations more valuable to scientific research and conservation. Even the common birds around us have secrets to reveal. So relax, take your time and let birds' fascinating lives unfold before you.

Magnificent Frigatebirds & Roseate Terns: Annual Journeys & Conservation Challenges for Seabirds of Special Concern

Jan. 21, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 114; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10

Jan. 22, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 119; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Ken Meyer (Avian Conservation and Research Institute)

Magnificent Frigatebirds and Roseate Terns represent the beauty, intriguing behavior, and challenging conservation biology so characteristic of seabirds in today's world. Satellite telemetry is a valuable technique ARCI is using, along with traditional, direct observation, to study long-distance seasonal movements of these birds, work which spans the Florida Keys, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean. During the non-breeding season, Magnificent Frigatebirds occupy the Florida Keys and Gulf Coast of Florida, where they gather in large night roosts and forage daily within 25-30 miles. When it comes time to nest, the tracked birds all move to the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico, by-passing the small nesting colony in the Dry Tortugas that represents the only breeding occurrence of this species in the U.S. (it was formerly located 18 miles west Key West before a steady decline ended in abandonment after 1988). As with all the water birds in this region, Magnificent Frigatebirds roost and nest in colonies. However, these vitally important places are subjected to frequent and often intensive human recreational disturbance (e.g., boating or going ashore in seasonally-restricted areas). This and reduced fish populations are thought to be the likely causes of the Magnificent Frigatebird's colony abandonment and overall decline. Similar threats plague many wide-ranging marine birds, such as the Roseate Tern, which is listed as Endangered in the U.S. ARCI has joined the most innovative producer of satellite-tracking devices to test prototypes of the smallest transmitter (just 2 grams) yet designed. The goal is to test these radios on species small in size with big challenges for identifying migration pathways and winter ranges where threats are resulting in steady declines. Well-designed and applied research incorporating the most appropriate technologies give us hope for reversing the declining trends of so many oceanic birds.

Natural History of South Africa

Jan. 20, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 121; Limit 40; \$10

Jan. 23, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 116; Limit 30; \$10

Jim Beckman (Cheepers! Birding on a Budget)

South Africa is one of the most exotic and captivating places in the world. Its stunning combination of culture, history, people, and landscapes have made it a dream place to visit for large numbers of tourists. For birders and wildlife enthusiasts, this unquestionably gorgeous country at the most southern point of the dark and mysterious

African continent offers a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Jim Beckman will share his experiences on the Cheepers! Birding on a Budget South African tours taken in October 2011 and October 2013. Take a tour of this amazing country with Jim, exploring its truly breathtaking scenery, amazing wildlife, and abundant birdlife through photographs and stories.

Natural Splendor of Panama

Jan. 20, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 119; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Jan. 23, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 116; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10

Carlos Bethancourt (Canopy Family)

Panama, though scarcely the size of South Carolina, but perfectly positioned as a narrow land bridge between North and South America, is blessed with an incredible natural beauty and biodiversity second to none. Over 994 bird species, hundreds of mammals, reptiles & amphibians, and a staggering 10,000 plant species have been recorded here. Join knowledgeable and entertaining Canopy Family senior guide Carlos Bethancourt on a photographic journey of the tropical birds, bizarre mammals, unusual reptiles & amphibians and spectacular habitats from the Canal Zone of Central Panama, into the foothills of western Panama, and then into the wilds of the Darién in eastern Panama. He will also feature an exciting new endeavor for the Canopy Family, the Canopy Camp in the wilds of eastern Panama—Darién! From toucans to hummingbirds and sloths to tongue-wielding Orange Nectar Bats, Carlos will keep you spellbound with his stories of discovery and vivid images. Come experience why Panama is indeed the country of natural wonder!

Nature Journaling Workshop

Jan. 20, 1:30pm-3:30pm; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Sarah Kraum (EEL Sanctuary Steward)

Meet at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary: 444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville, FL. From EFSC drive south on US 1 for 8.3 miles. Turn right on SR405/Columbia Blvd. Drive about 1/2 mile and turn right into the entrance.

Nature journaling is an excellent way to record your observations, reflections, and responses to the environment. It defies definition as some people may sketch, some may write poetry, or others may simply list their sightings. The beauty of it is that there are no rules; it's just you, your experiences, and the natural world. However, getting started can be the tricky part. Come learn some helpful tricks and tips, hone in on your sketching skills, and then experience the outdoors through your nature journal while we hike through the Enchanted Forest. Journals will be provided.



Art for Wildlife event. Photo courtesy of Downtown Art Gallery.



Canopy Jumping Spider (Lake George Forest). Photo by John Serrao.

Our Amazing Arachnids – Florida's Spiders & Their Kin
Jan. 23, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 131; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10

John Serrao (Naturalist)

People are fascinated by spiders, scorpions and other arachnids, but not always in a positive way. This slide program will dispel myths and misconceptions about these beneficial creatures and showcase the fabulous diversity of colors, shapes, and sizes exhibited by Florida's many species. More than 65 species will be shown, ranging from tiny, silvery "dewdrop spiders" that loiter in the webs of big orb-weavers to steal unattended prey, to gigantic fishing spiders that can overpower and eat tree frogs, to all 4 species of Florida "widows". Scorpions and their bizarre cousins, the whip scorpions and wind scorpions, will also be shown, as well as daddy-long-legs, ticks, and other relatives of spiders. Besides highlighting their beauty and diversity, this program also emphasizes the important role that spiders play as predators – and as prey – in our natural communities, and how 99% of Florida's species are harmless to humans.

John Serrao received his M.S. degree with an emphasis on entomology from Cornell University and has been a professional naturalist, writer, photographer, and tour leader for 40 years. He has written 7 books about natural history, and his photos have appeared in hundreds of magazines, textbooks, field guides, and museums. Several live Florida spiders will be on display after the power point program.

Our Living Beaches

Jan. 22 & 23, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 118; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10

Blair Witherington (University of Florida)

"Our beaches are alive!" That's the premise proposed by Blair and Dawn Witherington in their presentation appropriately entitled, "Our Living Beaches." Our wave-swept coastline offers more than a sandy stroll amidst stunning scenery. As ever-changing ribbons of sand, these beaches foster unique life forms and accept beguiling castaways from a vast marine wilderness. Mysteries abound. What is this odd creature? Why does the beach look this way? How did this strange item get here? Blair and Dawn have sought to satisfy beachcombers' curiosity within four books on southeastern US beaches covering beach processes, plants, animals, minerals, and manmade objects. In their presentation Blair and Dawn suggest a series of "quests" highlighting a beachcombing journey among our southwest Florida beaches and showing how each visit to a beach is unique - no two are exactly alike, and at any given beach, every day brings something different. Blair

art for wildlife

To the artists of The Downtown Art Gallery, the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge is like a second home. "I spend hours and hours out there shooting photos, looking for images that capture the serenity and beauty of this special place," commented wildlife and scenic photographer Dale Nichols, who is also a MINWR volunteer. Nichols is one of fifteen artists to call The Downtown Art Gallery home.

For the past seven years, the gallery has held an annual fundraiser called Art for Wildlife which benefits MIWA and the Refuge. "We raise money by donating a lot of gorgeous artwork and gallery space. We also ask local businesses to donate items or day trips. Last January was our first live auction. We auctioned off a helicopter tour, a kayak trip, a couples massage/hotel spa package and two one-on-one birding excursions to name a few things," said gallery co-owner Heidi Thamert. Thamert and her husband Jeff, avid nature enthusiast and photographer, have owned the gallery for 13 years. "We were able to donate over \$2,000 to MIWA last year and are proud that our art gallery can help," commented Jeff.

This year they plan to outdo themselves with even more great wildlife packages. The 8th Annual Art for Wildlife event is Friday, January 22nd from 5:00pm-10:00pm. Join them for great wines, delicious hors d'oeuvres, beautiful artwork and great local treasures to take home with you. And they are very happy to learn that Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival's keynote speakers Kevin Karlson and Dale Rosselet, two wonderful birders and naturalists will join the Art for Wildlife after their talk! Everyone is welcome. The event is free to attend. Donations are encouraged.

The Downtown Art Gallery is located at 335 S. Washington Avenue in charming downtown Titusville.

Call 321-268-0122 for more information.

Downtown **ART** Gallery

8th Annual **Art for Wildlife**

**Friday Jan. 22nd
5-10pm**

**Gorgeous Art, Delicious Wine
& Tasty Hors d'oeuvres**

**Come enjoy a great
evening with us!**

**All while raising money for
the Merritt Island National
Wildlife Refuge**

**For Info Call : 321-268-0122
335 S. Washington Ave. Titusville**



and Dawn Witherington have authored books on sea turtles, Florida beaches, beaches of the southeastern US, and seashells and have worked together on a variety of natural history publications. Blair is a senior Sea Turtle Biologist with the Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research, University of Florida. He has a master's degree in biology and a doctorate in zoology. Dawn is a graphic designer and illustrator specializing in scientific and educational depictions of nature.



Blair Witherington, Dawn and sea turtle. Photo by ???.

Our Sea Turtles – Up Close & Personal

Jan. 22 & 23, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 118; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10

Blair Witherington (University of Florida)

Blair and Dawn will share stories from their new book, *Our Sea Turtles*. The book provides a cordial introduction to sea turtles as well as a deeper dive into their mysterious lives. In their presentation, the Witheringtons offer a privileged, up-close, virtual encounter with sea turtles from unique perspectives and with extraordinary images. Blair, a biologist who has worked intimately with sea turtles for 30 years, and Dawn, a graphic design artist specializing in nature, have authored other books on natural history, including *Florida's Living Beaches*, *Living Beaches of Georgia and the Carolinas*, and two books on seashells. Following their presentations, the Witheringtons will be pleased to sign copies of their books.

Radar Birding 101

Jan. 20, 2:15pm-3:15pm; 123; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Angel and Mariel Abreu (Nature is Awesome Tours)

Have you ever wondered how many birds fly over Florida under the cover of night during migration? Thanks to advances in Doppler weather radars we are now able to investigate and answer this question. In this workshop we will teach you how to use radar for analyzing bird migration. You will learn how to interpret radar images and how to put this technology to use when choosing where to bird during migration. We will also cover how weather plays a crucial role as to when and where birds will migrate. After this workshop you will be able to "see in the dark", adding a new tool to your birding toolkit that can take your birding skills to the next level. See you there!

Reddish Egrets & Great White Herons: The Unusual Coastal Ecology of Florida's Rarest Wading Birds

Jan. 21, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 114; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10

Jan. 22, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 119; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Ken Meyer (Avian Conservation and Research Institute)

Reddish Egrets and Great White Herons are two of the species we are studying in southern Florida for which conservation action needs reliable data. In fact, they are distinctive among wading birds in that they are the only two species that have not regained stable or

increasing population levels following bans on the plume-hunting trade. ARCI uses classic field methods plus satellite telemetry to investigate the reasons and recommend solutions for such declines. We have learned that Reddish Egrets are highly competitive where they concentrate in distinctive, sparsely-distributed foraging habitat (clear, shallow, hard-bottom tidal ponds and streams). Aggression is pronounced, adult survival is below average, and individuals remain on feeding areas year-round to maintain 'ownership' rather than seek better seasonal conditions. Great White Herons forage in more open water with apparently greater opportunities; however, ARCI determined that they are limited by the gradual loss of expansive sea grass beds, the single habitat feature on which they are most dependent. Sea grass provides nursery habitat for many species of fish that the herons (and egrets) need to survive. Adding to our concerns are the clear differences in foraging effectiveness between the lower Keys and Florida Bay, where Great White Herons are even more at risk. Our growing knowledge of the ecology of these species and the prevalence of public lands within their geographic ranges give us hope for sustaining their populations in the long-term.



White Morph Reddish Egret, Black Point Drive. Photo by Joel Reynolds

Seven-Fold Path to Better Birding

Jan. 23, 11:00am-12:00pm; 121; Limit 40 Registrants; Free

Stephen Ingraham (Carl Zeiss Sports Optics)

This is an ideal class to take before attending the Beginning Birding session on Saturday at MINWR!

What do good birders know that you don't (yet)? Here are seven simple disciplines 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! Stephen 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 *WildBird*, *Birder's World*, *Birdwatching* 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. Bring paper and pen and be ready to take notes.

learn to make an oyster mat

A special Festival project

Sex in the Sitta - the Intriguing Life of the Brown-headed Nuthatch

Jan. 21, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 114; Limit 30 Registrants; \$10

Jan. 23, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 121; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Jim Cox (Tall Timbers Research Station & Land Conservancy)

The Brown-headed Nuthatch is one of a number of declining bird species found only in southern pinelands. The treetop antics and rubber ducky calls of these inquisitive birds make them a pleasure to watch, but nuthatches also exhibit a number of intriguing behaviors that call for closer scientific attention. Like Florida Scrub-jays and Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, adult nuthatches often forego the chance to breed and instead help other adults raise young. Unlike woodpeckers and jays, this type of cooperative breeding among nuthatches frequently includes assistance provided to breeders that are not close relatives. This creates complex social arrangements with many intriguing twists and turns.

Jim Cox, Director of the Stoddard Bird Lab at Tall Timbers Research Station & Land Conservancy, has been studying the complex social life of nuthatches for over a decade. Over 2000 individuals have been marked across a large area 4000-acre study area, and Jim and his colleagues are in the fourth year of an exciting experiment designed to unveil some of rich secrets of nuthatch societies. Jim taught a popular bird-watching class at Florida State University for many years and loves introducing people to joy of birding.

South Georgia Island

Jan. 20, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 123; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Jan. 23, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 119; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Jim Danzenbaker

The sub-Antarctic Island of South Georgia is home to a huge biomass of life from millions of breeding pairs of penguins to elegant albatrosses to tens of thousands of Fur Seals and Elephant Seals. In addition to the wildlife, the island is dotted with reminders of the past. Famed Antarctic explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton launched his epic journey of discovery to the South Pole from South Georgia and the island was also used as a center for whaling the southern oceans. We'll explore all these aspects of South Georgia through a photo travelogue. Jim Danzenbaker has visited South Georgia 13 times as a guide on a ship-based natural history tour of the Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and the Antarctic Peninsula. Jim is a nine year resident of Battle Ground, Washington and is looking forward to sharing the beautiful island of South Georgia with you.

Sparrow ID

Jan. 21, 1:00pm-2:30pm, 121; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Adam Kent (Florida Ornithological Society)

This workshop introduces the basics for 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 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 is the unofficial sparrow ID authority. This is a great opportunity to get your sparrow fix for the day.

Story of the World's Most Endangered Large Whale

Jan. 23, 4:00pm-5:00pm; AUD; Limit 150 Registrants; \$10

Julie Albert (Marine Resources Council)

A delightful dweller of the deep, the North Atlantic right whale is a



Jan. 22 & 23, 10:00am-3:00pm; Gym North Hall entrance area

Melinda Donnelly, University of Central Florida and member, BNA Board of Directors

Easy to do – enjoy visiting with others – no competition.

Help our local environment and pay it forward by helping to lower your carbon impact associated with travel to and in Brevard County. This is a special project in partnership with the Brevard Zoo and the University of Central Florida.

The Oyster Restoration Project is unique in that it is a powerful tool in restoring aquatic habitat and it provides an opportunity for everyone to participate in hands-on conservation effort. Oysters have great potential for restoring the health of the Indian River Lagoon. An oyster can filter up to 50 gallons of water a day and can remove excess nitrogen in the water that leads to brown tides and other algae blooms.

Dr. Linda Walters, researcher at University of Central Florida, began this project several years ago. Working at first with the Nature Conservancy, the project used volunteers from many organizations as well as school Environmental groups and set up mat-making at events throughout Brevard County. Volunteers are taught to place plastic lattice mats with oyster shells tied on them to recruit new oysters. They drill holes in the oyster shells and zip-tie them to the plastic mats. The mats then placed in select water areas and weighted down the mats with the concrete rings normally used to guard yard sprinkler heads.

To date, volunteers have restored 1.8 acres of oyster reef, adding almost 4.2 million oysters to Mosquito Lagoon. That's enough to filter 210 million gallons daily, or about 318 Olympic-sized swimming pools.





North Atlantic right whale #3546 off Melbourne Beach on March 10, 2014. At the age of 9, she gave birth to her first calf during the 2014 calving season and was spotted off Brevard County at least four times. She was later named 'Halo' for the ring-like appearance of the six small white callosities around her blowhole. Photo by Becki Smith/Marineland Right Whale Project under the authority of NOAA Fisheries Research Permit #13927-01.

perfect example of how appearances can be deceiving: one of the bulkiest great whales, it's also quite acrobatic, and has enchanted observers with its antics for centuries. It is readily distinguished from other whales by large white callosities on its enormous head, a broad back without a dorsal fin, and a curious looking long, arching jaw-line that begins below the eye. Everybody likes baby animals and we're lucky enough to be in this whale's calving area. Mother right whales are very nurturing and tactile with their calves, possibly because vocalizing will give away their location to predators. Calves often act like toddlers, going for rides on their mother's back or riding on her belly when mom rolls over. Calves will flipper slap, tail slap and breach right next to their moms, frequently nuzzling each other and rubbing their heads together, the North Atlantic right whale's name comes from the idea that it was the "right" whale to hunt: the slow-moving mammals were coastal, floated after death and had enormous amounts of oil and baleen. By 1750, the North Atlantic right whale population was depleted. The population may have numbered fewer than 100 individuals by 1935. As it became clear that hunting right whales was unsustainable, international protection for right whales came into effect. The practice was banned globally in 1937 and today they are most threatened by other human activities. Among the most endangered whales in the world, only about 500 of these gentle giants remain in the western North Atlantic Ocean. They migrate between summer feeding grounds in the Gulf of Maine and winter calving areas in Georgia and Florida's warmer waters where onlookers lucky enough can occasionally spot these coastal clowns from shore when they approach.

Join Brevard County's resident right whale authority, Julie Albert, for this vibrant presentation to learn more about these amazing animals and the shore-based coastal volunteer network that works to protect them. Julie will also be on the Festival's Offshore Birding and Wildlife Adventure boat trips where North Atlantic right whales and humpback whales have previously been seen.

Tracing the Migration of the Monarch Butterflies

Jan. 22, 2:15pm-3:15pm; 121; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Jan. 23, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 121; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Dr. Thomas C. Emmel (University of Florida)

Dr. Emmel's presence at the festival is through the generosity of Holbrook Travel.

One of the most amazing phenomena in nature is the annual migration of millions of Monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*) southward from

their breeding grounds in the United States and Canada east of the Rocky Mountains to overwintering sites in the mountains of southern Mexico. Hundreds of millions of Monarchs fly along the Gulf Coast, or across the Gulf of Mexico, to eventually reach the belt of high volcanic mountains which stretches across the southern end of the central Mexican plateau. At about a dozen isolated places within the high-altitude fir forests of this zone, Monarchs pass the winter in aggregations that exceed two billion individual butterflies. Throughout periods of sunshine, millions of butterflies will take flight from the roosts and sail to nearby stream banks to drink, then soar again into the air and eventually return that afternoon to their original roost on the surrounding trees.

Join Dr. Thomas C. Emmel, Director of the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity and Professor Emeritus of Zoology and Professor of Entomology at the University of Florida, to learn more about Monarch butterflies and their fascinating migration patterns. Dr. Emmel has authored more than 400 scientific publications and 35 books and is an internationally-renowned expert on tropical ecology, population biology, and Lepidoptera.



Dr. Thomas C. Emmel. Photo by Holbrook Travel.

Warbler ID

Jan. 20, 3:30pm-5:00pm; 123; Limit 40 Registrants; \$10

Louise Zemaitis (Victor Emanuel Nature Tours)

The wood-warblers are among the most popular groups of birds in North America. Their sheer abundance and diversity, brilliant plumages, and spectacular migrations make them a favorite of nearly every birder. Identifying these birds can be a challenge, particularly in fall and winter when many species are disguised in shades of green, yellow, and brown. Learn all about wing bars, eye rings, tail-wagging and hover-gleaning as we take the challenge and sort out these splendid birds. Our program will cover all eastern species with an emphasis on the 25+ species that winter in Florida.



Blackburnian Warbler, male breeding. Photo by Kevin Karlson.

Florida 2016

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Capturing Birds in Flight

Jan. 21 & 23, 2:30pm-6:00pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Jan. 22, 6:15am-9:30am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot, north side.

A unique image of a single bird or a flock of birds in flight is the desire and dream of most every wildlife and nature photographer. It may simply be due to our fascination with flight, or our curiosity of how it is done. In this class, professional nature photographer David Akoubian will demonstrate how to capture that image we all dream of. Whether you want a sharp single bird as it cruises, a flock as it takes to the sky, or are learning to pan with the bird for a more artsy image, technique is the key. David will discuss the proper mode to use on your camera as well as getting that perfect exposure. David will offer suggestions on making your birds in flight photography more enjoyable as well as simplifying it.

Creating Wildlife Images

Jan. 20, 10:30am-12:00pm; 113; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

Jan. 22, 10:30am-12:00pm; 123; Limit 40 Registrants; \$35

Join Tamron Image Master and professional nature photographer, David Akoubian, as he discusses taking your wildlife photography to the next level. David will discuss the techniques to create environmental portraits of wildlife as well as simply recording images for natural history. Learn the importance of composition and how it can add a higher level of appreciation by the viewer when photographing wildlife. David will discuss taking the stress out of exposure, allowing the photographer to create images during wildlife excursions. Become a "story teller" with your wildlife images. David will talk about doing wildlife photography on any budget and the importance of "necessities" when shooting for the sharpest images possible. Learn the importance of preparing for a wildlife excursion while doing simple preparations at home therefore maximizing your enjoyment of once in a life time excursions.

Designing Landscape Images

Jan. 21, 10:30am-12:00pm; 113; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

There are very few places in this country, that are commonly visited, that haven't been photographed before. Typically we go to visit a place because we have seen an image that we liked and wanted to see it. The problem for the photographer is capturing something "different" in a scene. We always want to make it our own.

Tamron Image Master and professional nature photographer David Akoubian will talk on making an image your own through design. He will discuss and demonstrate how choosing a lens can change the design. He will teach you to identify elements of interest and how to arrange those elements in the image's composition to make an image unique for a viewer. His simple tips and techniques will help to capture great images when we all visit the iconic locations as well as those rarely seen.

Making the Most of Macro

Jan. 23, 10:30am-12:00pm; 123; Limit 40 Registrants; \$35

We all have opportunities to hone our photography skills by shooting

macro subjects. Improving your macro work improves all types of photography whether it be wildlife or landscape. Macro is simply a very small landscape, often including a bug that when done correctly carries over to all of our camera work.

Join Tamron Image Master and professional nature photographer David Akoubian as he lectures and demonstrates simple techniques and offers tips to improve not only your macro but all of your photography endeavors. David sells many macro images as fine art prints to corporate clients simply by creating eye pleasing images through understanding his equipment and how they contribute to depth of field and the information passed on to the viewer. He will discuss simple techniques to maximize depth of field while limiting unnecessary elements within the image. He will also discuss the ability to achieve many great macro images with all-in-one lenses.

Offshore Photography Adventure

Jan. 24 & 25, 7:00am-1:00pm; Limit 6 Registrants; \$150 (Includes the price of the boat)

See the Offshore Birding and Wildlife Adventure description on page 30 for more details about the wildlife and for directions to the dock.

This unique photography adventure will take place on the Pastime Princess, a 100-foot former oil rig-tender with an upper and lower deck for increased photography opportunities. Prospects for great flight shots from amazingly close quarters will be limitless. The trip begins with excellent views of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, sandy beaches and rock jetties as we leave Ponce Inlet. The crew will chum, guaranteeing that birds will follow the boat. We hope to see a variety of birds and sea mammals as we look for whales and follow working shrimp boats. Past participants have seen North Atlantic Right Whales, Humpbacked Whales, Bottle-nose and Spotted Dolphins, sharks, sea turtles, pelicans, gulls, terns, gannets, and jaegers. Captain Josh McCoy, dockmaster at Wild Ocean Seafood will Join Captain Mike and Captain George in the wheelhouse to coordinate with the shrimp boat captains in order for the Princess to get very close to the working boats. It's not unusual to see sharks feeding behind the shrimp boats in addition to the clouds of birds that follow. Julie Albert, Florida Coordinator for the North American Right Whale Program will also be onboard. Julie has a research permit that allows any vessel she is on to get closer to right whales than the normal 1500-foot buffer.

What should you bring? Since we will be working on a variety of subjects, some near, some far, a short range zoom covering somewhere



Luna moth. Photo by David Akoubian.

near 24-100mm and a longer zoom to photograph the birds and whales. A zoom in the range of 150-600mm would be perfect. Since the boat will be moving, a lens with some sort of vibration compensation would be preferred. A monopod will help to stabilize your camera and lens as well. Since we will be out for an extended period of time, bring an extra battery, memory card and lens cloth. Most of all, get some rest, there will be lots to see!

The instructor, David Akoubian, has been a nature photographer for over 30 years. He has led photography workshops and tours on land and offshore in great birding locations such as the Galapagos Islands, Apalachicola, FL, Louisiana, and Maine.



Seashore Sunrise South Brevard. Photo by Robert Amoruso.

ROBERT AMORUSO

Wildscape Images

wildscapeimages.com, 407-808-7417, robert.amoruso@wildscapeimages.com

Sponsored by Hunt's Photo + Video, Feisol and Jobu Design

Basic Exposure for Digital Cameras

Jan. 21, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 113; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

New for 2016, Robert will cover topics related to understanding exposure better. This workshop will cover those aspects of exposure with digital cameras that generally give beginners and intermediate photographers the most problems. Automated and manual exposure methods will be discussed. How to use your histogram covered. Examples discussed and handy presentation notes made available to you for download. If you are struggling with exposing images correctly, this workshop will help to dispel some of the mystery.

Landscape Photography

Jan. 22, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 123; Limit 40 Registrants; \$35

This workshop is not a repeat of the 2015 workshop – new material, new images, and new techniques will be discussed and demonstrated. This workshop covers Robert's field workflow in creating a successful landscape image from start to finish. A landscape photographer for over 35 years, Robert has photographed the natural wonders of the Northeast and Southwest. Since arriving in Florida in 1999, Robert has been photographing the coastlines and wetlands, hardwoods and scrub habitats of Florida and in particular the beaches of Brevard County including the beautiful Canaveral National Seashore. Creating expressive imagery is more than pointing the camera and snapping the shutter. This workshop will delve into those aspects of landscape

photography Robert uses to create his expressive imagery. It is highly recommended that you attend his Landscape Photography Field Workshop at Canaveral National Seashore where we will put techniques discussed here into practice photographing sunrise and the beach landscape.

Photographic Equipment Q&A

Jan. 23, 1:00pm-2:00pm; 123; Limit 40 Registrants; \$35

New for 2016, Robert will cover basic photo equipment recommendations followed by a lively Q&A session.

This workshop will cover basic equipment needs for landscape, scenic and wildlife photography. After a short presentation on basic equipment needs, Robert will show you what he uses in the field to create his imagery. Topics covered include camera resolution, ISO performance, metering systems and AF systems and what you need to consider in purchasing a camera. Wide-angle to super-telephoto lenses. Tripods and heads. Plus all the small stuff you need and want. The class will be one hour long with 30 minute presentation plus a 30 minute Q&A. I will be available after the class for additional discussions.

Photography Field Workshop – MINWR

Jan. 21, 6:15am-10:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot, north side.

The sun will rise at 7:15am, so please be on time.

Join wildlife and nature photographer/Certified Florida Master Naturalist Robert Amoruso for a morning of in-depth field instruction at the area's best location for avian and wildlife photography. Robert's images have won numerous national and international contests and have been featured in publications including *Audubon* magazine. Locations we will visit include MINWR's Black Point Wildlife Drive but may include Peacocks Pocket and/or Gator Creek Road if time allows or conditions warrant. Bring cameras, wide-angle lens, longest telephoto lens and tripods. We will be shooting close to the vehicles. Instruction includes metering/exposure, composition, designing pleasing backgrounds, handling equipment, shooting birds in flight and a host of other topics.

Photography Field Workshop – Viera Wetlands

Jan. 22, 6:45am-10:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at the Viera Wetlands parking lot.

Join wildlife and nature photographer/Certified Florida Master Naturalist Robert Amoruso for a morning of in-depth field instruction at one of Brevard County's most popular wetlands. Normally at this time of the year multiple breeding pairs of Great Blue Herons will be courting, displaying and nest-building at the wetlands. Bring cameras, wide-angle lens, longest telephoto lens and tripod if you have one. We will be shooting close to the vehicles. Instruction includes metering/exposure, composition, designing pleasing backgrounds, handling equipment, shooting birds in flight and a host of other topics.

Sunrise Landscape Photography / Beach Photo Walk – Canaveral National Seashore/MINWR-BioLab Road

Jan. 23, 5:30am-9:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot, north side.

The sun will rise at 7:15am, so please be on time. Early meet-up is requested to allow us time to go over some basic instructions and be at the Seashore entrance gate at 6:00am sharp. We will leave the boat parking lot at 5:45am sharp so please be on time. Light is best starting 30 to 45 minutes before sunrise so I want to be on location to capture it.

Join wildlife and nature photographer/Certified Florida Master Naturalist Robert Amoruso for a morning of in-depth field instruction photographing the beautiful seashore during sunrise. He will

demonstrate the techniques that he uses to create expressive, creative imagery including using neutral density filters, slow shutter speeds, hyper-focal distance and what it all means. Recommended equipment includes a tripod, wide-angle lens and camera. A handout will be provided covering the techniques that he will demonstrate and help you with that morning. It is highly recommended that you attend his Landscape Photography classroom seminar in advance where he will cover in detail the techniques he uses in the field. After sunrise we can go on a short beach walk to investigate other flora and fauna photographic opportunities. Bring biting bug protection.

MARK BUCKLER

Mark Buckler Photography

bucklerphoto.com, 252-599-6275, mark@bucklerphoto.com

Sponsored by Hunt's Photo + Video

Bird Photography: Basics and ...

Jan. 20, 6:15am-9:30am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot, north side.

Learn how to create more dynamic and compelling bird photographs with this hands-on session. Mark's experience as a wildlife biologist and professional photographer provides him with knowledge that can be applied to get more interesting photographs...not just bird portraits. Great bird photographs are much more than filling the frame with an attractive animal...it is more about context, emotion, background, motion (or implied motion). Mark will emphasize the importance of awareness and prediction in the photographic process while we photograph the birds at Merritt Island NWR. You will learn how to effectively approach birds, focusing strategies, composition, exposure and much more.

Crafting Spectacular Images...from Beginning to End

Jan. 23, 6:00am-12:00pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$95

Meet at McDonalds, 4305 W. Main St. Mims, at I-95 & SR 46.

The Classroom portion will take place in Room 118.

This special workshop will take you on a journey from the creation of your image in the field to the finalizing of your image using the latest software. In the field, Mark will show you how to approach the creative process and handles various conditions that have a profound effect on the final product.



Skimmer. Photo by Mark Buckler.

After shooting in the field, we will return to the classroom where we will review your images and provide constructive feedback. We will also use the images from the field as examples of how to optimize them and give them that final pop that matches your original vision.

Creating Compelling Images of the Coast

Jan. 20, 3:00pm-4:30pm; 113; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

Jan. 23, 3:30pm-5:00pm; 114; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

Humans have always been drawn to the coast and with nearly forty percent of the US population living in a coastal county, there is no shortage of images from this area where land and sea meet. Professional photographer, Mark Buckler, has lived on the coast nearly his entire life...on both Cape Cod and the Outer Banks of NC. He will share a series of tips, learned over decades of photographic experience, that will dramatically improve your photos of the coast (and other landscapes as well). Discover essential techniques and explore a variety of ways to create compelling, distinctive images that exhibit your own creative vision.

Finalizing Your Vision - Using Adobe Lightroom to Optimize Your Images

Jan. 21, 3:30pm-5:00pm; 147; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

The human eye and the camera see the world very differently and many people are surprised that modern camera technology produces images that are generally dull and flat. This classroom session will give you a better understanding of how your camera sees and how you can use Adobe Lightroom (or similar software) to create images that more accurately reflect what your eye saw at the time of image capture. Post-processing has always been an important part of photography (even in the days of film) and you will learn the amazing power of Lightroom and its ability to bring out the beauty in your photography.

Ingredients to Great Photographs

Jan. 21, 10:30am-12:00pm; 121; Limit 40 Registrants; \$35

Crafting great photographs of nature requires a solid technical foundation, creativity and a great deal of thought. Professional photographer, Mark Buckler, will share some of his spectacular images and give you a series of tips so that you can make stunning, dynamic and compelling images of your own. From start to finish, Mark will give you insight into the process of how he approaches various photographic situations.

Photography Field Workshop - Shorebirds

Jan. 24, 7:30am-10:30am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot, north side.

Learn how to create better bird photos while specifically targeting various shorebird species. In addition to learning various photographic techniques and principles of bird photography, you will learn how to create more compelling and dynamic images. We may also visit some other areas at which shorebirds congregate. I will be scouting in the days prior to the workshop to locate these areas.

Sunrise and Bird Photography

Jan. 22, 6:00am-9:30am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot, north side.

Learn how to more effectively photograph sunrise situations to create more artistic images that represent what your eye sees. Once the sun gets above the horizon we will seek out various shorebirds, wading birds and anything else that we come across. This is a great program that covers both scenic and wildlife photography.

JIM CALDWELL

The Fotobug, Outdoor Photo Workshops, The Elusive Image
727-771-9686, thefotobug.net, outdoorphotoworkshops.com, elusiveimage.net, jim@thefotobug.com

Sponsored by Rogue Photographic Design

Close-up Patterns in Nature

Jan. 22 & 23, 10:00am-12:00pm; Limit 14 Registrants; \$40

Jan. 24, 10:30am-12:30pm; Limit 14 Registrants; \$40

Meet at the Enchanted Forest Education Center, 444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville.

In the heat of the day when many nature photographers put their cameras away until the late afternoon, there are actually a nearly infinite opportunities to capture amazing close-up images, abstract patterns and insects and flowers. Learn how to see and discover these patterns and learn the techniques and simple tools used to capture amazing close-ups. The workshop will cover means to simplify and defocus the background, use of simple reflectors and diffusers as well as simple lighting equipment.

What to bring: Wide to short telephoto (17mm to 100mm) lenses capable of close focusing or even macro lenses will be very handy in this workshop. A tripod is optional, but not necessary. Knowledge of your cameras exposure bracketing capabilities and manual exposure ahead of time will come in handy.



Palmetto. Photo by Jim Caldwell.

Light Painting

Jan. 22 & 23, 2:30pm-5:00pm; 123; Limit 20 Registrants; \$40

In this fun and informative workshop you will learn the tips, tricks and techniques to get unique images using long exposures and lighting tools. Light painting is a technique where the photographer works in a darkened environment, and by using common flashlights can light the scene over time and in a manner that would be difficult or even impossible to do using conventional lighting equipment or strobes. This technique isn't limited to studio work; it can even be used for landscapes after nightfall. This hands-on workshop will cover: theories of good lighting, equipment needed for light painting, tips and techniques, demonstration of the two major approaches to light painting.

After the lecture – the class will be broken up into groups to create light paintings in the classroom. Props and lights will be provided. What to bring: Wide angle lenses and mid-range zooms are recommended for this workshop. A tripod is a must due to the long exposures



free photographic one-on-one sessions

Booth #26

Throughout the festival, Kevin Loughlin will be holding FREE 30-minute photographic one-on-one sessions at the Wildside Nature Tours booth in the vendor area. These sessions will be perfect for anyone who would like help with any aspect of photographic technique or if you have recently purchased a new camera or need help choosing new equipment. Come to the Wildside Nature Tours booth to register for your time slot!

bring your camera for cleaning!

Peachtree Camera Repair will have a booth next to Hunt's Photo and Video where you are welcome to make an appointment to bring your camera for cleaning. If your camera is broken, send it to Peachtree. One of only two authorized warranty centers in the Southeast, Peachtree guarantees high quality professional service at competitive prices with a full ninety (90) days labor warranty on all camera repairs. They offer free estimates and a 3-day turn around on all professionally used equipment.

Jim McEver
President/CEO

Nikon AUTHORIZED SERVICE CENTER

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required. Knowledge of your camera's exposure capabilities and manual exposure ahead of time will come in handy. If you wish to bring objects (sea shells, etc) with you to paint with light, please do!

Time Lapse Processing – Outdoor

Jan. 20 & 21, 7:30am-9:00am; Limit 14 Registrants; \$35

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot, north side.

Wispy clouds gently fly past the viewer, thousands of stars rotate in the night sky overhead, and the sun rapidly falls below the horizon revealing the stars in the dusky sky. Einstein wrote that time is relative and we have come to expect events to occur at specified rates. However, through the magic of time lapse photography, flowers can bloom and die in mere seconds; shadows can race across mountainous landscapes, and city traffic streaks through city highways.

Time lapse photography is becoming more and more popular with the advent of digital cameras and can make for great imagery either as part of a video sequence or as an "add on" to a multimedia show. We will walk you through the process of making striking time lapse image sequences in the field and give direction on how to turn them into movies to be later inserted into a movie format or multimedia presentation.

What to bring: Wide angle to normal (17-55mm) lenses will be very handy in this workshop. A tripod is also required. Knowledge of your camera's exposure bracketing capabilities and manual exposure ahead of time will come in handy.

We also highly recommend you have an intervalometer. Some cameras do have a built-in time lapse intervalometer (such as the Nikon D800 or GoPro or Canon 7D II), or you can purchase one (like the mobile Triggertrap which is free for iOS and Android, but requires a camera cable "dongle" which is under \$30) or a dedicated intervalometer (available on Amazon for as low as \$15).

Time Lapse Processing - Indoor

Jan. 20 & 21, 10:00am-12:00pm; 123; Limit 14 Registrants; \$40

Capturing a series of time lapse still frames is only the beginning to create a time lapse sequence. The individual frames need to be processed and assembled into a final video clip (even if the camera such as the Nikon D800 can create the video clip in-camera). This workshop will show how to use Adobe Lightroom and LR Timelapse to process the images, remove flicker, and assemble the processed frames into a video clip.

VINNY & ANNETTE COLUCCI

Photo Galleries of Vinny & Annette Colucci

Escape to Nature Photography, 252-349-1121, vinnycolucci.com, vinny@vinnycolucci.com

Sponsored by Hunt's Photo + Video, Nikon and Singh-Ray Filters

Advanced Digital Tips & Techniques

Jan. 23, 10:30am-12:00pm; 116; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

This classroom session will cover advanced techniques and tips in digital photography as it relates to the nature & wildlife photographer. We will expand how we utilize the histogram and understand how to read it for advanced techniques such as High Dynamic range and Photoshop layer blending. We will also explore multiple exposure and bracketing techniques, in camera layering and when to use a jpeg file alongside or instead of a RAW file. White balance as a creative filter will also be explored. Understanding the preset, white balance and the Kelvin feature. We will go over all these and more. A full 30-45 minutes will be allocated after the program is completed for questions and



Photo by Vinny Colucci.

answers. The presenter will be sharing his professional tips throughout the session.

Birding Photography & Sunset at Viera Wetlands Park

Jan. 20, 22 & 23, 3:00pm-6:00pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Viera Wetlands Parking lot.

We will learn about bird photography - techniques on birds in flight as well as nesting subjects. Long lens techniques will be reviewed and proper tripod techniques. Field flash photography with Better Beamer, will also be demonstrated. We will conclude the evening with a sunset shoot over one of the lakes at Viera. We may even get a few gator shots. Equipment: Long telephoto up to 600mm. Wide angle lens for sunset. Polarizing filter, ND Grad Filter (we have a few to share, ND filter) Bring: Flash unit and Better Beamer if you have one, tripod, Wimberley Head if you have one.

Digital Boot Camp

Jan. 20, 10:30am-12:00pm; 121; Limit 40 Registrants; \$35

This classroom program will cover the A to Z of basic and intermediate photography. Learn about Aperture for depth of field control and shutter speed for freezing or implying motion. Exposure and reading the histogram as well as composition of subjects will also be covered. Learn the selection of proper lens for different photographic situations as well as reviewing shooting modes such as aperture priority, shutter priority and manual.

Flash Photography for Wildlife and Nature

Jan. 21, 2:30pm-3:30pm; 113; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

This is a classroom seminar on flash photography. Learn the principles of the flash and how each mode works. From Manual to TTL and the new intelligent TTL you will see how to set your flash to get a natural looking non-flash look to your subject. Want to know what a Better Beamer is? Want to know how to properly set on and when to use it? We will cover the Better Beamer Flash attachment. A simple \$40 investment makes your 60-foot flash light up a subject a few hundred feet away.

Sunrise at Cocoa Beach Pier

Jan. 21 & 24, 6:30am-9:30am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at the east end of the parking lot for the Cocoa Beach Pier, 401 Meade Ave. Cocoa Beach.

We will photograph early morning light over the Atlantic. Anchoring the sunrise with the Cocoa Beach Pier in the foreground, we will capture the sun as it rises above the horizon. Using polarizing filters we will control the sun's reflection in the water as well as using filters to control shutter speed on the breaking waves. Afterwards we will work on motion photos as the waves break against the pier. We will also have some opportunities for close up and macro work as we will have some seashells for use in staging and photographing in morning light along the seashore.

As stated above, we will explore the use of polarizing filters, ND filters, and Graduated ND filters prior and during sunrise. After sunrise we will also look at close up photography of surf breaking on the beach.

Equipment to bring: Wide angle to medium telephoto, 18-200mm range. A macro lens will help for those close up images after sunrise, polarizing filters, ND filters (We have a few to share), ND Grad filter (We have a few to share), tripod.

Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge - Black Point Wildlife Drive

Jan. 22, 6:15am-9:30am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot, north side.

We will explore Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge's Black Point Wildlife Drive for birding and other wildlife. We will learn about bird photography and techniques on birds in flight as well as nesting subjects. Long lens techniques will be reviewed and proper tripod techniques. Field flash photography with Better Beamer, will also be demonstrated. We will take advantage of early morning light at sun break.

Equipment: Long telephoto up to 600mm, wide-angle lens for sunset, polarizing filter, ND Grad filter (We have a few to share), ND filter, flash unit and Better Beamer if you have one, tripod, Wimberley Head if you have one.

KATHRYN DOW

Kathryn Dow Photography

kathryndow.photoshelter.com, 978-837-0296, knazz815@gmail.com

Afternoon Adventure and Sunset Silhouettes

Jan. 21 & 23, 2:30pm-6:00pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Viera Wetlands Parking lot.

Join me for a productive afternoon photographing an active area of birds. I will guide you through these beautiful wetlands from finding our subjects to creating that desired image. How to capture the action with correct exposure, focus point selection and composition. How to photograph your subjects at the correct angle for clean backgrounds. At sunset we will shoot landscapes at my favorite spot. We will then create appealing silhouettes to close out the evening. Please bring a wide angle lens, strongest telephoto lens, camera body, tripod, flash, and binoculars. All other accessories such as charged batteries and cards. Minimal walking as we stop to get out of vehicles throughout Ritch Grissom Memorial Wetlands.

Creative Flair for your workflow

Jan. 21 & 22, 10:30am-12:00pm; 114; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

I will share a series of before and after images. My process explained from basic editing into creative enhancement. Offering you some

fresh ideas to bring the drama to your images. Make it all it can be. Creative application can change the entire mood of your image. We will be editing a few images during the class if you are able to bring the following items with you: Fully charged laptop and few raw files of your choice.

I use Photoshop CC and Topaz for this process. If you do not have these programs in your computer you may download a free 30-day trial from Adobe and then the same from Topaz Labs. Please have this installed prior to classroom workshop to take full advantage of my step by step process. Please bring supplies to take notes if unable to bring other items.

Headshots

Jan. 20, 1:00pm-2:30pm; 113; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

Jan. 22, 3:30pm-5:00pm; 147; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

I will guide you through a quick and easy process on how to create a stunning headshot. We all have those images of our feathered friends where we wish we could have been a bit closer but kept a respectful distance to observe natural behavior. Starting from a raw file I will share my techniques for achieving that desired finished look. We will be editing a few images during the class if you are able to bring the following items with you: Fully charged laptop, and a few raw files of birds to edit with my techniques.

I use Photoshop CC and Topaz for this process. If you do not have these programs in your computer you may download a free 30-day trial from Adobe and then the same from Topaz Labs. Please have this installed prior to classroom

workshop to take full advantage of my step by step process. Please bring supplies to take notes if unable to bring other items.

Sunrise Birding and Photography Field Workshop

Jan. 20, 23 & 24, 6:30am-10:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Viera Wetlands parking lot.

Join me for a productive morning exploring the wetlands and surrounding area. We will focus on exposure, focus point selection and composition. How to photograph your subjects at the correct angle for clean backgrounds. I will be on a constant watch to find some of the more elusive subjects such as: Crested Caracara, Loggerhead Shrike, Northern Harrier, American Kestrel, and American Bittern. We will discuss bird behavior and how

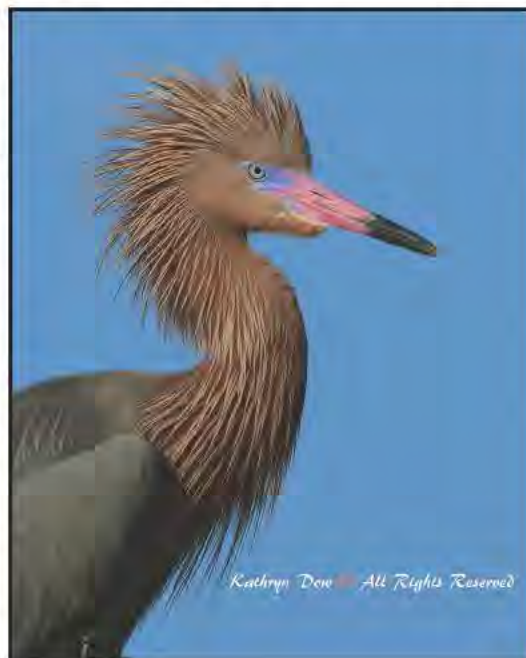


Photo by Kathryn Dow.

the more you know the less you miss. The right approach is key to capturing the essence of natural behavior in your images. Please bring your strongest telephoto lens, wide angle lens, camera body, tripod, flash, and binoculars. All other accessories such as charged batteries and cards. Minimal walking as we stop to get out of vehicles throughout Ritch Grissom Memorial Wetlands and surrounding area.

MAXIS GAMEZ

Bird Photography & Seminars by Maxis Gamez

www.gvisions.org, find me on google+, www.facebook.com/maxis.gamez

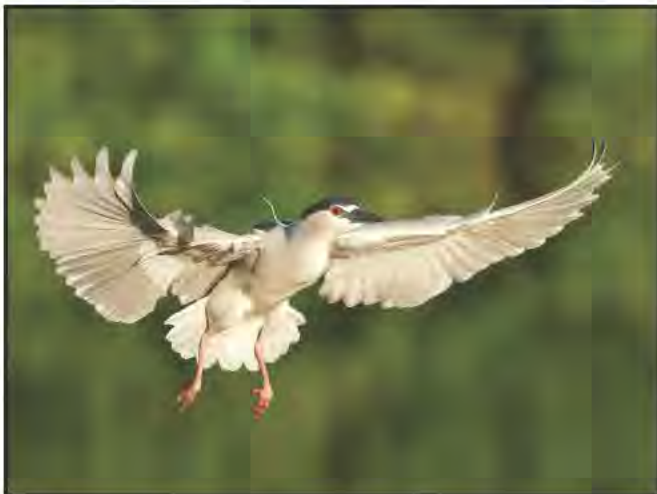


Photo by Maxis Gamez.

Merritt Island's Magical Golden Hour Landscape Workshop

Jan. 20 & 22, 6:30am-9:30am; Limit 14 Registrants; \$90

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot, north side.

Join Landscape and bird photographer Maxis Gamez for a morning at one the most iconic locations around. During this workshop, you'll learn the benefit of using filters as well as creating powerful compositions, manual exposure. Mr. Gamez, will also cover the benefits of using Hyperlocal distance and much more!

Birds in Flight, Camera Settings & Field Techniques Workshop at Viera Wetlands

Jan. 23 & 24, 6:30am-9:30am; Limit 14 Registrants; \$90

Jan. 20, 3:00pm-5:30pm; Limit 14 Registrants; \$90

Meet at Viera Wetlands parking lot.

Having a difficult time photographing birds in flight? Are you looking for a different technique that can help you improve your chances of photographing birds in flight? Learn step-by-step how to successfully photograph birds in flight. This hands-on equipment seminar is all about panning and how to manage your focusing system using a very unique technique. Topics covered during this seminar are: long lens panning technique using your tripod, hand held panning techniques using your short and long lens, how to manage your focusing system to work for you and how manual exposure affects your final results.

From Bird Watcher to Bird Photographer Field Workshop at Viera Wetlands

Jan. 21, 6:30am-9:30am; Limit 14 Registrants; \$90

Jan. 22, 3:00pm-5:30pm; Limit 14 Registrants; \$90

Meet at Viera Wetlands parking lot.

You love birding and you want to learn how to create better photos. This field workshop is for you! Join bird and nature photographer Maxis Gamez for everything you need to know about getting you started in bird photography. Learn how to do it right from the very beginning and avoid the hassle and frustration many new photographers go thru. From equipment, camera settings to advanced field techniques. This seminar is for everyone getting into bird photography!

Consistent Exposure the Easy Way Bird Photography Workshop at Viera Wetlands

Jan. 21, 3:00pm-5:30pm; Limit 14 Registrants; \$90

Meet at Viera Wetlands parking lot.

Manual exposure is a topic a lot of photographers struggle with. Learn how to manage your exposure by studying and analyzing your histogram. This seminar is full of information and will help you understand the process of achieving good results every time!

Field Techniques for Every Bird Photographer at Viera Wetlands

Jan. 23, 3:00pm-5:30pm; Limit 14 Registrants; \$90

Meet at Viera Wetlands parking lot.

This seminar is dedicated to help you photograph shorebirds like never before! Learn how to make your subject powerful in the frame. From perspective to equipment care, this seminar will change your bird photography!

Topics covered in this seminar include: The perfect approaching technique, how to handle your equipment in the elements, the importance of perspective, when low is too low, how to keep your horizon straight, what works-and-doesn't work, and much more.

Improve Your Skills & Final Results by Using Manual Exposure at Viera Wetlands

Jan. 24, 3:00pm-5:30pm; Limit 14 Registrants; \$90

Meet at Viera Wetlands parking lot.

Manual exposure is a topic a lot of photographers struggle with. Learn how to manage your exposure by studying and analyzing your histogram. This seminar is full of information and will help you understand the key elements of exposing your images correctly every time!

MILTON HEIBERG

Milton Heiberg Studios

Miltonheiberg.com, 407-658-4869

Heiberg: Bird Photography - How To

Jan. 21, 2:45pm-3:45pm; 123; Limit 40 Registrants; \$35

Milton Heiberg, author of *The Essentials of Nature Photography*, and 35-year veteran of teaching nature photography, will show you how to capture the beauty of the birds, how to approach the birds with telephoto lenses, and the technique of photographing birds in flight. He will also show you how to set up your camera for maximum performance when processing with Photoshop and other enhancement software. If you are planning to attend any of Milton's field trips to Bio Lab Road, you should seriously consider this hands-on class.

Heiberg: Digital Processing Workflow

Jan. 21, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 123; Limit 40 Registrants; \$35

This hour deals with the other half of digital photography—the computer. The agony of a wildlife photographer deals with getting up at half-past dark, and fighting the elements of nature to experience the beauty of nature. The ecstasy is bringing those hard-earned images



Black-bellied Whistling Ducks. Photo by Milton Heiberg.

to life in the computer. Using the holistic approach to photography, we will briefly go through the steps of making good images in camera with the computer in mind, and then make them great using up-to-date software. We will be focusing on Lightroom 5, NIK/Google plug-ins, and some of the highlights of Photoshop that we can't live without.

Heiberg: Close-up Photography

Jan. 22, 1:00pm-2:30pm; 113; Limit 30 Registrants; \$45

Students will learn new skills needed to capture the fascinating world of small nature subjects close up, using tools such as macro lenses, bellows attachments, telephoto lenses with extension tubes, and flash. Learn how to make fully focused close-ups from front to back using "Stacking Technique." You need not own this equipment at the start. We will explore techniques needed to photograph small subjects from wildflowers to flying insects, and practice these newly learned skills.

Photography Sunrise Field Workshops

Jan 22, 23 & 24, 5:45am -10:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$70

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot, north side.

Drive and stalk along the beautiful water edge of Bio Lab Road as the sun rises over the lagoon. Bring tripod, and a 300+mm lens. Your leader will be Milton Heiberg, a 35+ year veteran of nature photography, teacher of the subject for 20 years at the New York City Audubon Society and for the past 17 years at The Crealdé School of Art in Orlando. He is also the Central Florida instructor for Digital Photo Academy - a national school based in NYC. He is the author of seven books on photography. Many of his students have become well published and noted nature photographers (which includes Florida's own Arthur Morris).

JERRY HUG

Jerry Hug Unique Photo Images

jerryhugphoto.com, 847-636-7453, jerryhug@comcast.net

Phone-ography: The Best Camera is the One that is with You

Jan. 22 & 23, 10:00am-12:00pm; 113; Limit 20 Registrants; \$35

Jan. 22 & 23, 2:00pm-4:00pm; 113; Limit 20 Registrants; \$35

This class will provide the opportunity to learn how to format your pictures so that they look great! Participants must have an iPhone, iPad, iPod with camera or a Smart Phone in which you can install the required three apps.

This class is for iPhones and Smart phones that can down load the following apps in advance for the "Hands On Workshop". Apps that need to be downloaded for the class: Snapseed, Touch/Retouch and Perfectly Clear. Optional app VividHDR. The classes are structured into three parts: a. How to take better photos with your cell phones, b. how to edit your photos with the above 3 required applications (apps), c. How to share your photos and store your images for printing and future use in slide

shows. Speakers notes will be free for all participants. Jerry Hug is the Public Relations Vice President of Photographic Society of America.



Great Horned Owl. Photo by Jerry Hug.



Tricolored Heron, St. Augustine Alligator Farm, St. Augustine, FL. Photo by Steve Ingraham.

STEPHEN INGRAHAM

Point & Shoot Nature Photographer, Lightshedder

psnp.lightshedder.com, 207-423-2038, lightshedder@gmail.com

Advanced and Specialized Modes for Point and Shoot Nature Photography

Jan. 21 & 23, 8:00am-10:00am; Limit 10 Registrants; Free

Meet at the Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center.

There is way more to your P&S superzoom than immediately meets the eye. HDR for dramatic landscapes. Sweep panorama. Hand-held night scene mode. Sports mode for action and birds in flight. Macro mode or macro settings. Creative Styles. Etc. Expand your understanding of your camera and your vision!

Field Techniques for Point and Shoot Nature Photography

Jan. 20 & 22, 1:30pm-3:30pm; Limit 10 Registrants; Free

Meet at the Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center.

We will spend time in the field exploring the basic camera settings and important attitudes for bird, wildlife, macro, and landscape photography with a Point and Shoot camera. The camera is going to do most of the hard work, but you do need to know how to point it in the right direction... both in its basic setup (menus etc.) and in a more literal sense of what to take pictures of, and how those choices determine what you ask the camera to do. This workshop should build your confidence in the both the camera's and your own abilities. Bring whatever camera you have, and we will share.

Introducing Point and Shoot Nature Photography: Bird and Wildlife, Macro and Landscape

Jan. 20 & 22, 10:30am-12:00pm; 119; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Serious nature photography is no longer the sole domain of the well-equipped DSLR photographer. As thousands of photographers have discovered over the past few years, today's long zoom Point and Shoot digital cameras, in the hands of a thoughtful and creative photographer, are capable of amazingly satisfying images of everything from birds and wildlife, to macros of wildflowers and insects, to grand landscapes and sweeping panoramas under dramatic skies...all in a relatively small, compact, and inexpensive package. This workshop provides a basic introduction to the cameras (including how to choose the best one for your needs) and techniques that put nature photography within the reach of anyone with the desire to share what they appreciate in the natural world. Part inspiration and part instruction, it will change the way you look at nature photography...and convince you that it is indeed possible to be a "real" nature photographer with a Point & Shoot camera.

Point and Shoot Nature Photography Field Workshop Viera Wetlands Park

Jan. 24, 8:00am-12:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Meet at the Viera Wetlands parking lot.

An opportunity to get out and take pictures with your Point & Shoot camera in a supportive, nurturing atmosphere...and a beautiful spot with opportunities for birds, wildlife, butterflies, dragonflies, flowers, land and waterscapes.



Scissor-tailed Flycatchers. Photo by Kevin Karlson.

Post Processing for Point and Shoot Nature Photography Lightroom and Snapseed

Jan. 23, 1:00pm-2:30pm; 113; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

You cannot save a bad photo with post processing... but any good photo can be made better with some software tweaks. I would no more share an unprocessed photo than I would share a unbaked cake :) In fact, you should begin to visualize the processed image before you snap the shutter. We will work through a series of photos to see what can, and should, be done in both Lightroom (Windows and Mac) and Snapseed (iOS and Android). Bring your laptop or tablet. Download the Lightroom demo and/or Snapseed if you do not already own the programs. (Some of what we will learn can also be done in PhotoShop or PhotoShop Elements, but not as easily.)

KEVIN KARLSON

Kevin T. Karlson Bird and Nature Photography

kevin@karlson.com, 609-465-2138, karlson3@comcast.net

Advanced Photography Classroom Workshop: Flight and Action Techniques; Light Awareness; Manual Exposure Basics; Composition

Jan. 21, 1:00pm-2:30pm; 123; Limit 40 Registrants; \$35

Digital photography advances allow us to capture flight and action images like never before. Even with these advantages, it is important to learn how to capture a dynamic wildlife image with the most efficient field techniques and camera settings for a variety of situations. Kevin shares techniques for photographing wildlife in action, and reasons for selecting one option over others. Topics covered include: handheld versus tripod techniques; proper exposure and camera settings for different field conditions; subject acquisition; subject tracking; and advantages of using manual exposure.

Awareness of lighting and how it works is the foundation of photography. Today's photographers often rely on their cameras to automatically set exposures, and thus miss the opportunity to control light creatively. Kevin explains the basics of light and how to compensate quickly for white or dark subjects. Proper light exposures for a variety of situations are also discussed, with manual exposure or compensation in aperture priority mode explained. Finally, many photographers today badly compose excellent images because they lack awareness of basic compositional requirements in all art forms, including photography. Balance in wildlife and nature images will be discussed, with examples of correct and incorrect composition shown. (This workshop is advanced in nature, so knowledge of your camera settings is required.)

Advanced Photography Field Workshop: Flight and Action Techniques; Light Awareness; Manual Exposure Basics; Composition

Jan. 23, 6:30am-11:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot.

This comprehensive interactive workshop takes the instructions and tips from Kevin's indoor workshop of the same name and puts them to use in field situations. Kevin explains the principles of flight and action photography, and how these techniques are best applied in field situations. Topics covered include the basics of flight and action photography, including handheld technique; proper exposure; subject acquisition; subject tracking; advantages of manual exposure; and importance of practice with a variety of subjects.

Awareness of lighting and to use it is the foundation of photography, and Kevin explains the basics of light and how to compensate quickly for white or dark subjects. Creative light exposures for a variety of situations are also discussed, with manual exposure or compensation

in aperture priority mode explained. Finally, basic compositional rules and photographic balance will be briefly discussed, although the classroom instruction is better to illustrate the crucial principles. Each participant will get individual attention, so if you want to take your wildlife photography to the next level, this is a good workshop for you.

Taking Your Creative Photo Skills to the Next Level: Shooting Outside the Box – A Special Interactive Workshop

Jan. 23, 1:00pm-3:00pm; 114; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

Are you curious about what separates the special photos from all the others in a judge's mind during a photo contest? In today's world of super equipment and instructional workshops, it takes a unique photo to stand out in a crowd. In the first half hour of this workshop, Kevin shares his experience as a judge and what makes a photo stand out among hundreds of others, and then offers some basic photo tips that need to be followed if your images are to move to the next level. The next 90 minutes will be spent viewing images from the participants and discussing what could have been done to make it a better photo (bring 2 - 4 jpeg images on a thumb drive). After gently critiquing the first set of photos, the audience will comment on the rest of the images while Kevin moderates the discussion. Kevin will emphasize the value of everyone's artistic vision and input, while still maintaining critical basic compositional requirements. This is a new workshop inspired by the countless similar images that Kevin sees each year, with a desire to promote more creativity in nature and wildlife photography.

KEVIN LOUGHLIN

Wildside Nature Tours

wildsidenaturetours.com, 888-875-9453, info@wildsidenaturetours

Light and Shadow - the Photographic Foundation

Jan. 22, 10:00am-12:00pm; 118; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

Photography is light and shadow. So many people began their photographic experiences using the 'Program Mode' letting the camera make all their decisions. This has created a generation of photographers who have not been grounded in the basic elements of photography. Start fresh with new insight into light and exposure.

Visit Wildside's booths to schedule a one-on-one photography consultation.



Hummingbird. Photo by Kevin Loughlin.



Photo by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

help tell the story of merritt island NWR

Visualize the magnificent new Community Conservation and Education Center planned for the Refuge! This 8,100 square foot facility will serve the area as an environmental education and outdoor recreation center, provide a versatile multi-purpose meeting venue, and will include the nature store and the Refuge Visitor Center. Its centerpiece will be a large exhibit hall to portray and explain the diverse and unique aspects of this extraordinary Refuge and its role in the environmental and economic vitality of the communities it serves – from local to international. Construction of the first phase of this \$4.6 million showcase will begin in 2017, with the second phase to be completed in 2019. But alas... federal funding is not available for the additional \$700,000 needed for the exhibits themselves! Never fear...with the support of the US Fish & Wildlife Service, the Merritt Island Wildlife Association (MIWA, the 1300-member Refuge "Friends" group) has accepted the challenge to raise these funds to assure the first phase opens with exceptional exhibitry – educational, interpretive, interactive...and fun!

you can help realize this vision

To donate to this campaign, please visit the MIWA web page at <http://www.merrittislandwildlifeassociation.org/> or mail your donation to MIWA, P.O. Box 2683, Titusville FL 32781. Identify your contribution for the Visitor Center Exhibit Fund; and yes, all donors will receive recognition.

Donated funds will be managed under the terms of a formal agreement between MIWA and the USFWS. MIWA is a 501(c)(3) Florida non-profit corporation registered with the State to solicit and receive charitable contributions. More information is available on the MINWR and MIWA web pages and at our booth in the vendor area.

thank you for your support

MIKE MATTHEWS

Mike Matthews Photography

mikematthewsphotography.com, 239-896-6999, mike@mikematthewsphotography.com

Frog and Reptile Macro Workshop

Jan. 21, 22, & 23, 10:00am-12:00pm; 147; Limit 15 Registrants; \$125

Jan. 21, 22 & 23, 1:00pm-3:00pm; 147; Limit 15 Registrants; \$125

Please join professional photographer Mike Matthews for this unique and exciting workshop. You will have the opportunity to photograph 10 to 15 species of exotic reptiles and amphibians such as the red eyed tree frog, brightly colored poison dart frogs, and numerous lizards and snakes.



Arrow frog. Photo by Mike Matthews.

All animals will be set up in natural settings in a controlled environment with live plants, flowers, leaves, and bark to produce some of the most stunning photographs that would be hard to duplicate even in the wild. You would have to travel to multiple foreign countries to get the shots you will get in this workshop. Using his outdoor skills to get close to wildlife, Mike is able to capture incredible images that bring his audience along as if they were there. Macro photography is one of Mike's favorite ways to photograph, and one

of his greatest joys is teaching others how they can have similar results photographing this small but beautiful world.

So whether it is with a macro lens, or using a telephoto lens to capture an Osprey in flight. Mike's hope is that you enjoy his passion for photography capturing nature in its truest form.

Gear list for this workshop: 1) Macro lens from 50mm, 100mm up to 180mm will work great. 2) Ring Flash, Ray Flash, or macro Twin Flash work well. 3) Speed-light flashes, (ones that fit in the hot shoe of your camera) can work well if used with some form of a diffuser, such as a Gary Fong, or Rouge light bender. 4) Extra batteries for flashes. 5) Extension tubes are optional for the longer lens. 6) Tripods are not needed for this workshop. 7) Point and shoot cameras with a macro setting can also be effective at this workshop. 8) Hunts Photo and Video is a good source for macro equipment and will be at the festival.

HAZEL MEREDITH

Meredith Images

meredithimages.com, 203-375-1039, hazel@meredithimages.com

Sponsored by Photomatrix and Hunt's Photo + Video

HDR Imaging – The Natural Look

Jan. 20, 10:30am-12:00pm; 147; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

High Dynamic Range – what does that mean? Our eyes can see much more light in a scene than our cameras can capture. The purpose of HDR is to capture the extremes of light that your camera cannot capture in one image (for example, when there are very bright highlights and/or deep shadows that you wish to retain detail in). Typical definitions consider it a process of capturing a high dynamic range of light and rendering it in a single image, which consists of putting it through a program that can "tone map" the image. This definition seems to have become synonymous with HDR.

People often think of HDR images as the highly processed "grunge" look – this seminar will show you how to utilize HDR for creating a "natural" look in your final image while accenting textures and details.

Photograph Birds & Alligators from an Airboat

Jan. 22, 9:00am-11:30am & 1:00pm-3:30pm; Limit 4 Registrants; \$110 (includes airboat fee)

Jan. 23, 11:30am-2:00pm; Limit 4 Registrants; \$110 (includes airboat fee)

Meet at the SR 50 Boat Ramp, 28500 E Colonial DR, Christmas, FL. The ramp is located on the south side of SR 50, 5.7 miles west of I-95.

Get up close and personal with various birds and alligators aboard Ray's Airboat Rides. The six-person airboat will give everyone an "end seat" with great photographic opportunities. Ray has navigated the waters of the St. John's River his entire life and knows all the best spots to find wildlife. Species can include: egrets, herons, ducks, bald eagles, skimmers and, of course, lots of alligators. Space on the boat is limited, so please bring only a small camera bag and/or limited equipment. I suggest a long telephoto lens as well as an intermediate zoom lens.



Great Blue Heron - MINWR. Photo by Hazel Meredith.

Photographing Sunrise/Sunset, Birds & Wildlife on the MINWR Berm Roads

Jan. 21, 23 & 24, 6:15am-10:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Jan. 21, 2:30pm-6:00pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot, north side.

Sunrise and golden hour start the morning as we drive the berm roads scouting various birds. Instruction will include properly exposing your images, composing the shot, capturing birds in flight, and much more. Bring your camera with wide-angle, medium and long telephoto lenses, polarizers, and tripods. If you are not familiar with changing settings on your camera, please also bring your camera manual. Minimal walking.

Topaz Plug-Ins – What Can They Do for Your Photographs?

Jan. 23, 3:30pm-5:00pm; 147; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

See what the Topaz suite of products can do for your images! Topaz is an amazing suite of 16 products! It covers everything from creating stunning black & white images, to creative lens effects, glowing light and paintings, to helping you with better ways to mask and select difficult areas, sharpen, get rid of digital noise, and add clarity. There are thousands of creative photographic techniques to make your images the best they can be.

Working with Textures & Overlays – From Ho-Hum to Work of Art

Jan. 20, 1:00pm-2:30pm; 147; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

Don't delete that digital image! Do you sometimes have a shot that you really like... a subject that is hard to capture... a place you may not get to again... but it's not perfect? Turn that "almost" good shot into a work of art by utilizing textures and overlays.

Maybe it's a bird in flight – the bird looks great, but the sky is blah. Use another sky image as an overlay, or add a texture – or both! Maybe it's a nice flower shot – good color and composition, but it's not quite tack sharp. Use textures to turn it into a fine art image! Of course, you can also add textures to your best images and make them spectacular! Textures are everywhere – there are many free and for-purchase ones online. You can create your own textures within Photoshop or from photos of everyday objects. Working with layers and blending modes, there are many things you can do to create a beautiful work of art – I'll show you how!

JOEL REYNOLDS

Space Coast Wildlife Photographer

joelr@cfl.rr.com

Birding and Photography at Brevard County Solid Waste Operations Facility

Jan. 21 & 22, 8:00am-11:30am; Limit 12 Registrants; Free

Meet at 8:00am at the north parking lot of the Titusville IHOP Restaurant, 3755 Cheney Highway, near SR-50 and I-95. From there we will convoy to the Brevard County Solid Waste Operations Facility in Cocoa, FL.

Why would anyone in their right mind want to visit a Solid Waste Operations Facility (Landfill)? It is stinky and I don't want to step in poop. No, today Solid Waste Facilities don't stink (much) and we won't step in poop, although objects may protrude from the ground in some areas. Landfills are very different and are tightly regulated. Solid Waste Facilities hold a wealth of wildlife and birdlife, including many species of gulls, egrets and herons, ibis, wood storks and raptors, including bald eagles.

We will meet Erin LeClair and Rita Perini (Environmental Scientists) at the Solid Waste Operations Facility and be provided a short operations description about today's Landfill. They will also provide a very important safety briefing, have us sign Limits of Liability, give out safety vests then accompany us in their van around the facility while we search for wildlife. We will frequently stop for better observation and photography.



Wood Stork. Photo by Joel Reynolds.

Please wear long pants, protective and sturdy shoes (no open-toed shoes nor sandals) and bring a hat. Some hiking and changes in elevation may be involved. Why not be there until 8:30am? This gives the birds time to arrive from their winter roosting sites around Brevard County.

Not a photographer, no problem! Not a birder, no problem! The trip and information learned about a Solid Waste Facility plus observing its wildlife is absolutely fascinating! As Erin said a few years back: "Give me an hour to show you around our facility and you will never think of it in the same way again."

JOHN SLONINA

Slonina Photography

sphotography.com, 508-839-5111, jtslonina@aol.com

Sponsored by Hunts Photo + Video

Viera Wetlands Field Workshop

Jan. 20, 6:30am-10:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at the Viera Wetlands parking lot.

Black Point Wildlife Drive / Bio Lab Road Field Workshop

Jan. 20, 2:30pm-6:00pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Jan. 23, 2:30pm-6:00pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot, north side.

Peacocks Pocket Road / Gator Creek Road Field Workshop

Jan. 21, 2:30pm-6:00pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot, north side.

Blue Heron Wetlands Field Workshop

Jan. 24, 6:15am-10:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at International House of Pancakes parking lot, 3755 Cheney Highway, Titusville. Carpool from there.

Join John Slonina for an intensive instructional workshop to improve your photography. We will explore what makes a compelling and



Bald Eagle. Photo by John Slonina.

emotionally engaging photograph whether you're a novice photographer or a serious shooter you will learn create more dramatic, high-impact images. John will go over shooting birds in flight, getting the exposure correct every time. Backlighting, front lighting, focusing, using depth of field and composition to control foreground and background, increasing drama, critical sharpness, equipment and other techniques. How to get closer to your subjects? How to interpret behavior so that you can anticipate action?

John Slonina is a professional nature photographer who has been photographing for over 30 years. He also has a photo tour company which leads photo workshop across North America. His work has been published in multiple calendars, books, and magazines and in several galleries.

Fundamentals of Landscape Photography

Jan. 21, 10:30am-12:00pm; 119; Limit 40 Registrants; \$35

Jan. 22, 10:30am-12:00pm; 116; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

From grand vistas to intimate woodland glades, landscapes are favorite photography subjects. Too often, however, photographer's visual experiences of the majestic outdoors aren't reflected in the pictures they make. Why? Because many people overlook the importance of good technique, believing that exotic locations and expensive lenses create fantastic pictures.

Do you love the idea of grabbing your camera and heading out to beautiful locations? Then join John Slonina to learn to improve your landscape photography. This is the class John wishes he had when he got started with landscape photography. You'll learn all about the gear you'll need, the camera settings you'll want to use, and all kinds of tips and tricks to help you get tack sharp photos that are composed for impact.

By knowing the basics you'll be more comfortable when you are out on location, so you can enjoy the scenery, and make great photos while you are there. You will learn how to take advantage of different weather and lighting conditions. What filters and accessories to use and what to definitely have in your camera bag? What to do if the weather doesn't cooperate? How to get easy quick exposure?

John presents practical tips that can be immediately utilized to increase your chances of capturing that "shot of a lifetime". We will explore what makes a compelling and emotionally engaging photograph. He will present numerous photo techniques while entertaining participants and illustrating his points with humor and stories from his adventures. Whether you're a novice photographer or a serious shooter, you'll leave this presentation excited to try new strategies and tips for creating more dramatic, high-impact images.

Fundamentals of Lightroom

Jan. 22, 1:00pm-2:30pm; 114; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

This presentation will be an overview of Adobe Lightroom. He'll show you how to get your images into Lightroom, how to keep them organized, how to make them look great, and then share them with the world.

Why use Lightroom? How to convert a raw file; Importing photographs from your computer or camera; Viewing and comparing images in the Library; Renaming photos and folders; Rating and organizing photos; Grouping photos into collections; Adding keywords and face tags; Catalogs and how to set them up; Editing JPEG and RAW images in Photoshop; Understanding Lightroom catalogs; Importing photos from multiple sources; Organizing photos in the Library module; Reviewing and rating photos; Creating collections; Exporting and emailing photos; Enhancing photos in the Develop module; Fixing issues with the retouching tools; Making localized corrections; Reducing noise and sharpening; and Correcting lens distortion.

Fundamentals of Wildlife Photography

Jan. 23, 10:30am-12:00pm; 114; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

John presents practical tips that can be immediately utilized to increase your chances of capturing that "shot of a lifetime". We will explore what makes a compelling and emotionally engaging photograph. He will present numerous photo techniques while entertaining participants and illustrating his points with humor and stories from his adventures. Whether you're a novice photographer or a serious shooter, you'll leave this presentation excited to try new strategies and tips for getting closer to wildlife and creating more dramatic, high-impact images.

Drawing lessons from his 20 years of observing and photographing wildlife, John will discuss the complex process behind his breathtaking wildlife photographs. You'll learn: What it takes to be a great wildlife photographer; How to capture wildlife in their natural environment; The best places to find animals; How do you get closer to your subjects?; Tips on research, including field ethics and the best locations for photographing your subjects; How to interpret behavior so that you can anticipate action; How to increase the drama in your wildlife photography; How to improve your lighting; Techniques to achieve ultra-sharp animal photos and birds in flight; What gear is recommended; and Where the best locations are to photograph wildlife.

Gear for the Nature Photographer

Jan. 22, 3:30pm-5:00pm; 114; Limit 30 Registrants; \$35

Are you looking to purchase camera gear and want to make sure you buy the right equipment? This class will teach you how to select a great camera, lenses, tripods, ball heads, filters, L brackets, extension tubes, bean bags and several other accessories. We will discuss specific equipment for wildlife, landscapes, close up, night and macro photography.

This will save you a lot of money if you buy the right gear. How many lenses are too much or how many are not enough?

ROY THOMAN

Roy Thoman Photography

<https://roythoman.wordpress.com>, robroyphotography@cfl.rr.com

Nighttime Photography at the A. Max Brewer Bridge

Jan 21, 22 & 23; 5:30pm-8:30pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Parrish Park boat ramp parking area, north side.

Come take a walk on the dark side with local photographer Roy Thoman and explore the wonderful world of Nighttime Photography. This is



Photo by Roy Thoman.

a hands on workshop that emphasizes tips, techniques, ISO, shutter speed, and aperture settings. We will discuss how to approach a subject using composition to create a beautiful nighttime photograph. We will start with sunset photos then photograph various areas around the bridge. This bridge is a hot spot for fishing and shrimping. A beautifully lit bridge, a full moon, plenty of activities, we should get some very striking photos. This workshop is open to all skill levels; individual attention will be provided to each participant. Bring your camera (any type capable of manual settings) and a tripod. A cable release is preferable, but if your camera has a self-timer, that will do. Bring extra camera batteries (long shutter speeds use extra battery life) and a flashlight.

SHIV VERMA

www.shivverma.com, 617-759-0010, sv@shivverma.com

Sponsored by Panasonic

Panasonic Lumix Mirrorless Cameras and Lenses: The Next Generation of Photography

Jan. 20, 3:30pm-5:00pm; AUD; Limit 150 Registrants; Free

Mirrorless cameras are a rapidly growing category and are currently the most enticing and popular cameras available. They are light, compact and come with a full complement of lenses from 14mm to 600mm and soon to reach 800mm. Their exceptional photo and video quality makes them very compelling. Though much more compact than a comparable DSLR, they retain the manual control scheme that appeals

to the advanced user. In this program we will look at some of the pros and cons. We will learn how to set up and use Panasonic Mirrorless Cameras, Lenses and Accessories. This is also a unique opportunity to learn the concepts of hybrid photography, capturing stills from 4K video, 4K Photo modes and a whole lot more. See how mirrorless cameras can change your photography and spark your creativity. Suitable for all skill levels of photographer.

Daily Photowalks with Shiv Verma

Jan. 20, 7:30am-11:00am; MINWR; Limit 12 Registrants; Free

Jan. 22, 7:00am-10:30am; MINWR; Limit 12 Registrants; Free

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot, north side for the morning walk on Jan. 20 & 22 for the Photowalks at MINWR.

Jan. 21, 8:30am-10:30am & 3:00pm-5:00pm; Chain of Lakes; Free

Jan. 22, 3:00pm-5:00pm; Chain of Lakes; Free

Jan. 23, 8:30am-10:30am & 3:00pm-5:00pm; Chain of Lakes; Free

For information and to sign up for walks at the Chain of Lakes please go to the Panasonic Booth. Meet at the Gazebo between the Gym and Building 4 for Photowalks at the Chain of Lakes.

Do you love taking nature and wildlife images or would you like to learn how to? Would you like to be with a professional photographer who could help you see, compose and give you helpful tips and pointers on how to improve your photography? Would you like to try using the next generation of photography equipment, mirrorless cameras and light zoom lenses? How about "digiscoping," extending your reach to ranges of 1200mm through 4800 mm? If any of these are of interest then all you need is your camera, lenses, some comfortable attire and join me on one of my photowalks in the morning or afternoon. Better yet why not come on a few as each day is a different experience. I will help you get great images, in-flight shots, action shots, capturing behavior so you can take your nature and wildlife photography to the next level. Photographers of all experience levels are welcome. Your equipment can be a DSLR, a point and shoot camera, a fixed or interchangeable lens camera, and best of all I will have lots of loaner Panasonic Lumix cameras and lenses, including a powerful scope, for you to try.



Photo by Shiv Verma.

digiscoping



Vermillion Flycatcher. Photo by Adrian Lesak.

ADRIAN LESAK

Eagle Optics

www.eagleoptics.com

Introduction to Digiscoping

Jan. 21, 4:00pm-5:00pm; 113; Limit 30 Registrants; Free

Digiscoping is a simple and effective way to capture images of wildlife at a distance using a spotting scope and digital camera, even your cell phone's camera. This seminar will cover the equipment basics of a good Digiscoping set-up, including adapters, scopes, eyepieces, cameras, and tripods. We will discuss cost-performance benefits of different types of glass and how it can affect your Digiscoped photos. We will also touch on field technique and image post-processing. We will conclude with a question and answer session.

CLAY TAYLOR



Photo by Clay Taylor.

Swarovski Optik
Naturalist Market
Manager

www.swarovskioptik.com

Digiscoping with a Cell Phone

Jan. 20, 3:00pm-4:30pm; 147; Limit 30 Registrants; Free

Digiscoping has been around for at least a dozen years, giving birders the ability to photograph distant birds through their spotting scope by using a digital camera. Here's the catch - you have to bring your camera with you while you're out birding. There are a LOT of birders that forget to pack the

camera, so when a great bird shows up, they can't get a photo. What's the camera that you don't leave home without? Your cell phone! Here is a program that will help you learn how to take remarkably good photos and videos using your cell phone through a spotting scope. Bring your phone and spotting scope, and we will discuss setups, adapters, and field techniques.

Digiscoping with Digital SLR Cameras

Jan. 22, 10:30am-12:00pm; 121; Limit 40 Registrants; Free

Recent popularity of interchangeable-lens D-SLR cameras 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 Field Workshop

Jan. 22, 1:30pm-4:30pm; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Jan. 23, 8:00am-11:00am; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

This field workshop serves 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.

ROBERT WILSON

Robert Wilson Photography

photographyworldblog.com

Sponsored by Kowa

Digiscoping With Robert Wilson

Jan. 21 & 24, 8:00am-11:00am; Limit 20 Registrants; Free

Do you own a spotting scope or are you thinking of purchasing one to photograph birds with? Enjoy time with Robert Wilson, field representative for Kowa U.S. to learn the secrets of capturing photos of birds through a spotting scope. Topics to be covered include technique, equipment and photography tips.



Photo by Robert Wilson.

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