

The 20th Annual Space Coast

birding & wildlife

Festival 2017



Presented by

Swarovski Optik & The Brevard Nature Alliance

Titusville, Florida • January 25 - 30, 2017 • Eastern Florida State College North Campus

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Great Blue Heron at dawn photo by Clay Taylor, Swarovski Optik N.A.
Taken Jan. 21, 2015 at Merritt Island NWR using Spotting Scope Swarovski Optik STX 95 and Camera iPhone 5s, ISO 32, Shutter Speed 1/285 sec.

Roseate Spoonbill photo by Clay Taylor, Swarovski Optik N.A.
Taken Jan. 21, 2015 at Merritt Island NWR using Spotting Scope Swarovski Optik STX 95 and Camera Panasonic Lumix GH4, ISO – 800, Shutter Speed – 1/1300 sec.

Snowy Egret photo by Clay Taylor, Swarovski Optik N.A.
Taken Jan. 25, 2015 at Merritt Island NWR, using Spotting Scope Swarovski Optik STX 95 and Camera iPhone 5s, ISO 32, Shutter Speed 1/4405 sec.

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



This project received financial assistance
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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 Support Team

Laurilee Thompson, Festival Founder Barb Eager, Executive Director
Neta Harris, Marketing & Resources Barbara Hoelscher, Programs Assistant
Jim Eager, Social Media

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.SCBWF.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 20th Space Coast birding & wildlife festival

Past, Present & Future

The 20th Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival is shaping up to be quite an outstanding and exciting affair! This year's event will focus on two things – celebrating 20 years of hosting one of the premier birding festivals in the country, and highlighting one of the most diverse estuaries in North America – the Indian River Lagoon.

Over the years we listened, we learned and we accommodated... the festival was moved from November to January ten years back due to the increased variety and quality of birds found here in January. You wanted more field trips, heading north, south and west so we expanded where we could to take you to see even more birds, along with more diverse habitats, wildlife and natural history. As the festival matured we were able to provide world class experts to help you enjoy our Florida birds. Be sure to check out our list of awesome field trip leaders.

You wanted simplicity in joining classroom presentations, we are offering a limitless amount this year as part of your registration fee; unlimited attendance to classrooms, most of them carefully scheduled in order to not compete time wise against field trips and to increase diversity in the offerings. You wanted to learn from the experts on how to identify gulls and shorebirds, warblers and sparrows; we provided workshops led by professionals who will help you take your skills to new levels. Some of you loved the new digital bird list monitor and others yearned to keep the old way; we heard you and we will offer both options this year. A special Thank You goes out to Kevin Loughlin, David Hartgrove and Mike Stewart for making that happen!

We've included a focus on other festivals from around the country, and on new countries participating in our festival, especially Central and

South America. We created a Saturday Night Live Festival Street Party which gives everyone an opportunity to mingle, relax, have fun and share good times in downtown Titusville. There will be local merchants and festival exhibitors, food trucks and live music. Make sure that you like us on Face Book and check it and the festival web site for updates and new information.

Why did we make the Indian River Lagoon our focus this year? Because it is the jewel in Brevard County's natural resources. Because its sheen is seriously tarnished and it needs our help in highlighting its plight. Because we want it to be a source of enjoyment for everyone and everything; two-footed, four-footed, winged, scaled and gilled for generations to come.

We've made a lot of friends during this twenty-year journey from a tiny event with 200 attendees and no exhibitors to becoming one of the nation's foremost birding and wildlife festivals with exhibitors from around the world. As we do every year, we look forward to seeing those old friends and making new ones.

There is something here for everyone – there are presentations and short field trips geared to first time birders and young birders, and workshops and full-day marathon trips for those who have been birding for a long time and are looking to see familiar birds as well as add new ones to their lists. We have scores of passionate speakers, field trip leaders and volunteers – all here to help you enjoy your visit. You're in the best place to be in January. So relax, enjoy some Florida sunshine and have fun!

Barb Eager, Executive Director
Laurilee Thompson, Festival Founder/Chair

festival registration information

Register Online

Go to www.SCBWF.org for quick and secure online registration - 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.

Have questions? Please contact Barbara Hoelscher 321-268-5888 or barb@brevardnaturealliance.org.

looking for the schedule?

The daily schedule of events, a photo gallery and more can be found on the festival web site www.SCBWF.org. Make sure you check that and the festival Facebook page for any changes. With such a large event and so many people involved, it is nearly impossible to avoid situations where adjustments to the program are necessary. Activities are subject to change.

exhibit center

The Exhibit Center is the heart of the Festival. Here you will find important traditions and activities, including bird lists from the Festival field trips (both digital and on the big board), Afternoon Socials and the Silent Auction. It's the perfect place to spend time after field trips and in between classroom presentations. Make sure you visit all of our excellent vendors, who range from artists, crafters, photographers, book providers, sellers of clothing and outdoor equipment and conservation organizations. Also check out the fantastic array of optics and photographic equipment. Then visit Gary at Hunt's Photo + Video and Robert at Time & Optics to get the best deals for your purchases. Meet expert guides from a variety of international and domestic travel destinations. Stop by their booths and talk about your dream vacation. You will be surprised at how reasonable adventure travel can be!

Hours: Wed., Jan. 25 12pm-6pm Thu., Jan. 26 12pm-6pm
Fri., Jan. 27 12pm-6pm Sat., Jan. 28 10am-4pm

arts & exhibits fair

Come feast your eyes and wrap your thoughts around a delightful mixture of artistry, biology, photography and botany in our newly designed display style for this 20th Annual Festival, in the bright and wonderfully windowed Building 3.

Hours: Wed., Jan. 25 12pm-6pm Thu., Jan. 26 12pm-6pm
Fri., Jan. 27 12pm-6pm Sat., Jan. 28 10am-4pm

Rodney Smith

Do Birds, Dolphin, and Manatee Think & Feel? Do You?

Jan. 25, 6:30pm-7:30pm; \$10

Sponsored by



Sponsored by Dixie Crossroads Restaurant

Salmon regularly migrate thousands of miles to and from their breeding grounds. Arctic terns fly ten thousand miles and return to a nest on an island that's half a mile wide amid millions of square miles of oceans. Sea turtles cross oceans and return within feet of their birthplace.

Who is superior? In Carl Safina's book, *"Beyond*

Words: What Animals Think and Feel," he dives into this question of animal awareness. Rodney Smith will open discussion about signs of intelligent life in animals during his presentation.

Rodney Smith, storyteller, author, business owner, publisher, community leader, chairperson, philanthropist, and visionary knows that bringing people together is a big part of success.

His loves are the waters of Florida, and all the life surrounding and within the oceans, lagoons, and rivers! Today, his focus is the Indian River Lagoon and all the obstacles facing this unique



estuary in the coming years.

Growing up outside Tampa in rural Florida and fishing the numerous lakes and the Gulf of Mexico, he eventually moved to Florida's Indian River Lagoon Coast. As former founder of *Coastal Angler* magazine, Rodney has witnessed many changes in the environment in the Florida - the wildlife, water quality of our lagoons and estuaries, and the fishing industry itself.

During the same period, Rodney built the foundation of the non-profit, Anglers for Conservation with a vision

to energize volunteerism and create a new generation of marine stewards. Today, much of this NGO's work centers around educational outreach for kids and their parents; and educating the public on "using — not abusing our waterways".

Rodney has written hundreds of published magazine articles, publisher's letters and editorials; and penned the books, *Catching Made Easy*, *Enjoying Life on the Indian River Lagoon Coast*, *Road to Matapalo*, *Weed Queen* and *Pura Vita* (due out January 1, 2017). Rodney has been recognized by the Florida Outdoors Writers Association for his work in conservation and as a philanthropist.



Indian River Lagoon

Indian River Lagoon in Peril

Jan. 28, 1:00pm-2:30pm

Understanding Biodiversity, Water Movement, and Restoration

This panel will be presented by an esteemed group of professors from the University of Central Florida including Dr. Linda Walters, Dr. Geoffrey Cook, Dr. Kelly Kibler, Dr. Melinda Donnelly, Dr. Fernando I. Rivera, Dr. Lisa Chambers, and Dr. Timothy L. Hawthorne. Detailed position descriptions will be available on the festival website.

The Indian River Lagoon (IRL) has one of the greatest diversities of animals and plants in the nation. The estuary system includes Mosquito Lagoon, Banana River Lagoon, and the Indian River Lagoon. The balance of this delicate ecosystem has been disturbed as development has led to harmful impacts. The goal of the panel presentation will be first to introduce you to some of the amazing diversity that can be found in the IRL - shoreline wading birds, fishes, oysters, and mangroves. Once introduced, the panel will discuss some of the natural and human influenced factors that are potentially and negatively impacting these diverse species, followed by conversation on how restoration can promote an improved IRL.

Life & Times of Indian River Dolphins

Jan. 28, 2:45pm-3:45pm

Megan Stolen (Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute)

The Indian River Lagoon (IRL) 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. Learn some of the myths about dolphins and some of the mysteries surrounding unusual die-offs. 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 burning questions that are waiting to be answered. Megan will talk about the current threats to (IRL) dolphins and what you can do to help them. Come into our lab, aboard our boat and into a super cold freezer and get to know YOUR local dolphins. Megan Stolen is a research scientist at HSWRI. Her research focuses on stranded whales and dolphins, particularly dolphins of the IRL.

Paddling the Entire Indian River Lagoon

Jan. 28, 4:00pm-5:00pm

Mike Conneen (Executive Director, Anglers for Conservation)

Take a journey with one of the core members of the IRL Paddle Adventure Team as he describes what it was like to paddle 170 miles over 19 days -- the entire length of the Indian River Lagoon. Living on the IRL for almost 20 days comes with a lot of stories, both humorous and educational. It has only been 3 years since the trip was originally conquered but in that little bit of time, the environment has shifted. Hear the stories of the birds that were observed, the fish that were caught and the ever so changing sunrises and sunsets. It is OUR environment and WE must protect it for future generations to enjoy it as much as we have.

David La Puma

Radar Love

Jan. 26, 6:30pm-7:30pm; \$20

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From 2004 to 2014 David La Puma developed and maintained the website <http://www.woodcreeper.com/> where he brought the wonder of radar ornithology (using radar to understand bird migration) to the birding community. He continues to teach others about how they can use radar to better understand bird migration and predict birding conditions in their own

backyard. With every passing year, the technology at our fingertips with which to understand bird migration increases exponentially. In this ever evolving presentation, David will take you on a tour of the history, present status, and a glimpse into the future, of Radar Ornithology.

David La Puma is the Director of New Jersey Audubon's Cape May Bird Observatory (CMBO). The mission of CMBO



is to connect people to nature and steward the nature of today for the people of tomorrow...so you could say that David is a "people-person". Prior to becoming the director of CMBO, David worked as the product specialist for Leica Sport Optics, as a post-doctoral researcher with the University of Wisconsin, University of Delaware, and New Jersey Audubon's research department. David received his PhD from Rutgers University in 2010 where he studied the Effects of Fire on the Federally Endangered Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow.



Donald Kroodsma

Listening to a Continent Sing. Birdsong by Bicycle from the Atlantic to the Pacific

Jan. 27, 6:30pm-7:30pm; \$20

Sponsored by



"Some day I'd like to . . ." Go ahead. Finish the sentence. Now. And then let someone tell you that "Every year you don't do it, it's less likely you ever will." That's what the bicycle shop owner pulled on me. Given my love of bicycles and birdsong, my paniers were soon packed and I was on my bicycle, my son on his, and we were in Virginia heading west on a listening adventure.

We were not listing the species we identified (except for roadkills), and the binoculars mostly stayed packed away; rather, we were listening to each individual bird express whatever was on its mind at the moment we heard it. And how expressive these creatures are, but we can realize that only if we linger and listen deeply, the most common of birds (yes, robins, starlings, cowbirds, everything) are a marvel.

There were mountains to climb, plains and rivers to cross, basins and ranges, the caldera of Yellowstone, Hell's Canyon, the landscape everywhere extraordinary in its own way. There were the people, from coast to coast, kind, considerate, generous (usually!), with their own stories about birds. But mostly it was singing birds as we chased the singing season across the continent from May in Virginia to mid-July in Oregon.

There's a lot of talking to oneself on a journey like this. I talked myself out of a tenured, lifetime job as a university professor and returned unemployed, but FREE TO LISTEN the rest of my life.

DonaldKroodsma.com, ListeningToAContinentSing.com, video trailer: <https://vimeo.com/166860214>



John Moran

Our Water, Our Future

Jan. 29th, 2:30pm-3:30pm; \$10

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As our waters go, so goes Florida.

Although vital to the ecological and economic health of Florida, our waters are imperiled - by pollution, neglect and the groundwater demands of a thirsty state.

Join us for a frank and engaging discussion with nature photographer John Moran, whose career as an artist and journalist spans more

than 30 years.

Moran's evolving programs focus on Florida's iconic springs as a case study for exploring the larger topic of water, democracy and Florida's future. Combining superb photography with stirring commentary, Moran argues there can be no longterm wellbeing in Florida unless we embrace a new way of thinking about water—mindful that tomorrow's Florida is being shaped by the choices we make today.

Seeking to show and tell the truth more fully as he sees it, Moran partnered with artist and art historian Dr. Lesley Gamble in 2012 to create the Springs Eternal Project.



Their collaboration fills museum walls, educates decision makers and develops creative outreach inspiring Floridians to value, conserve and restore our precious waters.

Moran's speaking programs, detailing a photographer's search for the soul of Florida, have been presented to hundreds of civic, professional and educational gatherings from Pensacola to Key West. His programs have been called "exquisite," "lyrical," "eye-opening" and "like nothing I've ever seen."

John Moran's work is a deep meditation on water and Florida's future. Florida author and scholar Gary Mormino says, "If Florida had a Photographer Laureate, John Moran should hold that title." Moran's conference program resume includes Leadership Florida, Florida Council of 100, Florida Humanities Council, Florida League of Cities, Florida Bar Association, Florida Philanthropic Network, Audubon Florida General Assembly, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Association of Museums, UF Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences, Space Coast Birding Festival, Florida Library Association and the National Federation of Garden Clubs.

JohnMoranPhoto.com

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NOTE: Sponsors listed in italics

field trips

A Drive at Blue Heron Wetlands

Jan. 28, 7:20am-10:30am; Limit 20 Registrants; \$25

Lora Losi and Matt Heyden with Additional Experts

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

Restrooms are available inside the Administration Offices. No restrooms on the dikes.

A wide variety of waterfowl, wading birds and marsh birds congregate in the created wetlands at Blue Heron Water Treatment Facility. Constructed wetlands are engineered systems created from uplands that have been designed to utilize the natural processes of wetlands to assist in the polishing of wastewater effluent. The 292-acre site contains seven cells, or ponds, that are rich in 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, Gadwall, Wood Duck, Blue-winged and Green-winged Teal, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Northern Harrier, Red Shouldered Hawk, Caspian and Gull-billed Tern and Marsh Wren are just a few of over 100 species sighted at Blue Heron. Birders may also see alligators.

A Walk at Blue Heron Wetlands

Jan. 27 & 29; 7:20am-10:30am; Limit 20 Registrants; \$25

Lora Losi and Matt Heyden with Additional Experts

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

Restrooms are available inside the Administration Offices. No restrooms on the dikes.

Explore the engineered wetlands of Blue Heron, an outstanding birding site and magnet for wildlife. This is a 3-mile walk on a gravel road that surrounds the wetlands. The pace will be leisurely in order to fully appreciate the birds you will see. See description above for more details.

Beach Birds Intro & Field Trip

Jan. 28, 8:30am-10:00am Classroom Intro in Rm. 119, then 11:30-4:30pm Field Trip; Limit 32 Registrants; \$75

Adam and Gina Kent with Michael Brothers and Sarah Linney

After classroom intro, drive to Smyrna Dunes Park for field trip, 2995 N. Peninsula Ave., New Smyrna Beach, FL.

Grab lunch on the way. Entry Fee \$10/car. Restrooms at park entrance.

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 will begin at the park when birds are concentrated along the shore just after high tide, allowing for close observation and identification practice. Weather permitting, 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. The leaders will work closely with participants to demonstrate the process of determining age and separation of difficult gull plumages. There is always a possibility of finding rarities such as a Glaucous or Iceland Gull. Twenty species of

shorebirds are possible here, including American Oystercatchers, Piping and Wilson's Plovers, Purple Sandpipers and Red Knots.

Beginning Birding Intro & Field Trip at MINWR

Jan. 25, 8:00am-12:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; \$25

Betty Salter, Bill Stewart and John Lowry

Meet at Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center.

Restrooms are available at the MINWR Visitor Center and halfway through 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. A classroom session will cover field guides and other literature. You will learn helpful hints for beginners on where to find birds and how to identify them, interesting behaviors, typical silhouettes and identification tricks of the birding trade. There will also be an overview of optical equipment and how to properly use it. A 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.

Beginning Bird Walk at Chain of Lakes

Jan. 25, 26 & 27, 1:00pm-3:00pm; Limit 10 Registrants; \$15

Jan. 28, 10:00am-12:00pm; Limit 10 Registrants; \$15

Selena Kiser

Meet outside in front of the EFSC Gym.

If you're a beginning birder and you feel a little hesitant to join one of the larger field trips, look no further! Selena, an avid birder and wildlife biologist, will escort you on a two-hour adventure adjacent to the Festival grounds at Chain of Lakes Park. This lovely Brevard County park is wedged between the hospital, college, and the Indian River Lagoon. We'll weave along the paved paths, pausing to look at wintering waterfowl, wading birds, and songbirds along the way. We'll climb an observation tower to get a glorious view of the Indian River, including chance encounters of flying raptors at eye level. We'll take our time with viewing birds, so you can learn how to identify them. If you have binoculars, please bring them. Selena will have a spotting scope, but if you have one you wish to carry, feel free to bring it along, too.

Birding by Ear

Jan. 26, 7:30am-9:30am; Limit 20 Registrants; \$15

Lora Losi and Matt Heyden

Meet at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 444 Columbia Blvd., Titusville, FL.

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. 28 & 29; 6:30am-12:30pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$45

Paddy Cunningham

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

Restrooms are available at the MINWR Visitor Center (open at 8am) and at the parking lots at Canaveral National Seashore.

Birding by habitat helps you to determine what birds you are likely to see in an area. Birding by Ear helps to locate and identify the unique sounds of each bird. A variety of field techniques will be covered where you will

increase your birding skills. We will travel to various habitats: scrub, pinelands, open field, shoreline, open water, wetlands, and roadsides to see the role of habitat in identification. During a short field break numerous handouts will be distributed and discussed. This workshop has had 80-plus species with a high of 96 species for both days. Paddy Cunningham is a Naturalist, owner of Birding Adventures, and Everglades Birding Festival Coordinator. Her motto is "You learn the ID," and she excels in teaching birding skills in a non-intimidating field experience.

Birding for Beginners

Jan. 27, 8:00am-10:00am; Limit 20 Registrants; \$15

Joe Swingle

Meet at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 444 Columbia Blvd., Titusville, FL.

Birdwatching is one of North America's fastest growing recreational sports - but did you know a majority of people who enjoy birdwatching are beginners? This program is for anyone age eight to adult who considers him or herself a 'hatchling' birdwatcher. We will begin with a brief activity to hone a few easy birding techniques, and then do some practice with binoculars (bring yours or use ours). Next, we'll leave the 'nest' and head on the trails to take your new skills for a test flight as we hike for an hour and a half in search of a few birds in the Sanctuary.

Black Rails and the St. Johns NWR

Jan. 25 & 26, 4:00pm-7:00pm; Limit 14 Registrants; \$50

Michael O'Brien and David Simpson

Meet at the EFSC bus circle to board the bus. No restroom facilities.

Depending on site conditions, you may get wet walking through water, mud, and grass. Old shoes, or 'knee' boots are advised depending on the amount of rain on the site. This is a walk THROUGH the marsh, not on a boardwalk, trail, or a levee. It will get extremely cold - you will be out on the dike after dark. Please dress warmly.

Take a trailer ride through the restricted access St. Johns National Wildlife Refuge. The marshes west and northwest of Titusville are unique because here saline water seeps to the surface from a layer of salty water that lies above the Floridan aquifer, creating marine-type habitats in the middle of a huge freshwater floodplain - perfect for secretive marsh birds. King Rails and Virginia Rails are also possible. As the sun sets on the marsh horizon and wading birds flock to their roosts, we will make stops and play tapes to try to entice rails to call.

Central Florida Specialties

Jan. 25, 27, 28 & 30; 5:00am-4:00pm; Limit 25 Registrants; \$95

Dave Goodwin and Jim Eager with Additional Experts

Meet at the EFSC bus circle to board the bus.

Various stops will be made for restrooms.

A pre-dawn start at Three Lakes WMA will target Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, Bachman's Sparrows, Brown-headed Nuthatches, Pine Warblers and Eastern Bluebirds. Next stop is Lake Marian Marina to look for Limpkins, night-herons and Bonaparte's Gulls. A short drive to Peavine Road takes us to where King Rails were found breeding last summer.

Next destination is Joe Overstreet Road to search for Red-headed Woodpeckers. Burrowing Owls have bred here in the past. Along the road 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. At Joe Overstreet Landing on Lake Kissimmee we'll look for Snail Kites, Limpkins and Purple Gallinules in addition to the usual wading birds and inland gulls and terns. At Chapman's Double C Bar Ranch a Whooping Crane is often found with Sandhill Cranes. Last stop will be at the Cruickshank Sanctuary in Rockledge for Florida's only endemic bird, the Florida Scrub-Jay.

Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary Walk

Jan. 26, 9:00am-12:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; \$15

Jay Barnhart and Jim Stahl

hotels

headquarter hotel

Quality Inn Kennedy Space Center

3655 Cheney Highway, Titusville, FL 32780

Offering complimentary 3AM breakfast for the early birders, complimentary WiFi and a lovely heated pool with waterfall. \$79 for standard rooms, \$81 for moderate, and \$84 deluxe. HOTEL HAS NO ELEVATORS so be sure to request first floor if needed.

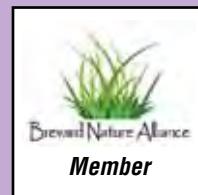
Call **321-269-7110** or **888-326-9468** and ask for the Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival Rate.

additional rooms blocked at:

Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott-Titusville/Kennedy Space Center

4735 Helen Hauser Blvd., Titusville, FL 32780

Free hot breakfast buffet and high-speed wireless Internet. Well-equipped 24-hour business center, exercise room, outdoor heated pool, 24-hour Market, interior corridors, elevators. Rooms have mini-refrigerators and flat screen TVs. Microwaves available on request. Pet-friendly with fee on ground-floor. Guests can make reservations by calling **321-385-1818** or **888-468-4934** and asking for the Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival special rate ranging from \$131 - \$151.



Hampton Inn Titusville/KSC

4760 Helen Hauser Blvd., Titusville, FL 32780

We provide our travelers a warm and inviting "home away from home." Some of our amenities include:

- Free hot breakfast offered daily, allowing your guests to start their day off right without an additional charge.
- Free high-speed and Wireless Internet access in the lobby and all guestrooms, allowing your guests to easily stay connected to their customers and family while at our hotel.
- Guests have the option to earn both HHonors points & airline miles. Each individual reservation has a 48 hour prior to arrival cancellation policy. Guests can make reservations by calling **321-383-9191** or **800-426-7866** and asking for the Birding & Wildlife Festival Rate, \$135 per night.

Holiday Inn Titusville/Kennedy Space Center

4715 Helen Hauser Blvd., Titusville, FL 32780

The Space Coasts newest full service hotel located on the I-95 corridor with brand new oversized guest rooms, microwave/fridge, complimentary high speed internet and onsite Bapa's Bistro for breakfast and dinner.

Guests can make reservations by calling **321-383-0200** or **1-888-HOLIDAY** and asking for the Birding & Wildlife Festival Rate, \$139 per night.

For additional information on other places to stay in the Titusville area, contact the Titusville Chamber of Commerce at www.Titusville.org or 321-267-3036, or Visit Space Coast at VisitSpaceCoast.com or 877-57-BEACH (2-3224).

offshore birding & wildlife adventure

Jan. 30; 7:00am-1:00pm; Limit 58 Registrants; \$110

Trip Leader: Michael Brothers

Co-leaders: Julie Albert, Jim Danzenbaker, David Hartgrove, Mitchell Harris, Michael O'Brien and David Simpson

Meet at the Sea Spirit at Sea Love Marina in front of Down the Hatch Restaurant, 4884 Front St., Ponce Inlet, FL 32127; 386-763-4388, www.seaspiritfishing.com

Note: Please arrive 20 minutes early. Dress warmly, bring full rain gear and wear waterproof shoes! Rain gear will help cut the wind and keep you warmer.

This trip will stay close to shore, targeting shrimp boats and the birds that follow them. Last year 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, terns, pelicans and gannets to watch from amazingly close quarters. In all we saw 8 gull (including Iceland Gull) and 5 tern species along with the glorious aerial spectacle of diving pelicans and gannets. 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 and Humpback Whales are a possibility as are North Atlantic Right Whales. This area is within the right whales' wintertime calving grounds. Whale researcher, Julie Albert, holds a research permit that allows any vessel she is on to get closer than the required 1500 foot buffer when a right whale is spotted. If we are fortunate enough to find whales, we will be able to get closer to them. A host of birding experts will be on hand to answer your questions about the birds. 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!

port canaveral & lagoon boat tour

Jan. 28, 1:00pm-3:30pm; Limit 49 Registrants; Adults: \$35 Kids under 12: \$25

A drink, snack and lunch from Fishlips Waterfront Bar & Grill are included on Jan. 28.

Jan. 29, 10:00am-12:30pm; Limit 49 Registrants; Adults: \$35 Kids under 12: \$25

A drink and snack are included on Jan. 29.

Departs from Kelly Park, 2550 N. Banana River Dr., Merritt Island, FL. Please arrive 15 minutes early.

Welcome aboard the Blue Dolphin, a 49 passenger Coast Guard approved pontoon boat operated by Mark and Michele Anderson. They have been running eco-tours in this part of Florida as Space Coast River Tours for more than 10 years. This two hour trip will take you into the Banana River, through the Canaveral Locks and into Port Canaveral - the 2nd busiest cruise ship port in the world - where you may see cargo tankers, U.S. Navy ships, local marinas and plenty of birds! In addition, we'll be sure to see dolphins and, weather depending, possibly manatees. Large flocks of American White Pelicans are normally seen at the entrance to the locks and during the cruise you will see Ospreys and other raptors, Wood Storks, Northern Gannets, pelicans, cormorants, gulls, terns and lots of egrets and herons. Past trips have produced such uncommon visitors as Common Eider, Magnificent Frigatebird and Sabine's Gull. After touring the port we'll head inland up the barge canal for more wildlife and nature viewing; we may even see an alligator. Tours are relaxing, educational and provide an excellent platform for photography. Dress warmly as it can be chilly out on the water in January.

Meet at Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary: 4900 Melissa Dr., Titusville, FL. No restrooms.

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.

Eagle Families

Jan. 28, 10:30am-12:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; \$15

Martha Pessaro

Meet at Sams House, 6195 N. Tropical Trail, Merritt Island, FL.

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 wingspans against a wall chart of many birds. There will be an easy 0.8 mile hike to the nest overlook site.

Evening Owl Prowl at Sams House

Jan. 28, 6:00pm-8:30pm; Limit 20 Registrants; \$15

Kaitlin Hurley and Susan Boorse

Meet at Sams House, 6195 N. Tropical Trail, Merritt Island, FL.

Bring a flashlight.

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 which 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. 27 & 28, 8:30am-12:30pm; Limit 40 Registrants; \$15

David Breininger, PhD & Paul Schmalzer, PhD

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 time of registration. Restrooms at MINWR Visitor Center only.

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. 26 & 29, 8:30am-10:30am; Limit 20 Registrants; \$15

Vince Lamb & Keith Winsten

Meet at the Helen & Alan Cruickshank Sanctuary, 360 Barnes Blvd,

Rockledge, FL.**No restrooms.**

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 168-acre Sanctuary, the Florida Scrub Jay population has increased from a few visiting birds to established colonies today, approximately 22 birds in 5 separate families. Gopher Tortoises, Red Bellied Woodpeckers, Scrub Lizards and other species requiring scrub habitat are often observed in the Sanctuary.

Forest Biodiversity Loop Hike

Jan. 28; 2:00pm-4:00pm; Limit 15 Registrants; \$15

Elaine Williams & Sharon Bohlmann

Meet at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 444 Columbia Blvd., Titusville, FL.

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. Hike along trails through three distinct habitats within the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary. Attributes of the forest flora and fauna will be discussed. This will be an easy hike and family friendly.

Fox Lake Trailer Tour

Jan. 26, 9:00am-11:00am; Limit 16 Registrants; \$15

Xavier de Seguin Des Hons and Selena Kiser

Meet at Fox Lake Park, 4400 Fox Lake Road, Titusville, FL.

Restrooms available at Fox Lake Park but not on tour.

Enjoy a leisurely trailer bench ride through Fox Lake Sanctuary. The ride will explore the recent EEL Program efforts to restore scrub habitat, breathtaking views of both Fox and South Lakes, and the local flora and fauna of the Sanctuary.

Gull Fly-In at Daytona Beach Shores

Jan. 26 & 27, 3:30pm-6:00pm; Limit 40 Registrants; \$45

Michael Brothers & Amar Ayyash with Additional Experts

Meet at Frank Rendon Park, 2705 S. Atlantic Ave, Daytona Beach Shores, FL.

Restrooms available at the park.

This beach has what may be the largest congregation of gulls on any beach in the US. In addition to the amazing array and density of gulls, the birds allow close approach. This presents an extraordinary opportunity to observe and photograph minute details on each species, and a chance to compare various plumages and age classes. This amazing concentration builds to possibly as many as 30,000 gulls each evening. Seen consistently here are species that are rare in Florida, including the only record of Vega Gull. Laughing, Franklin, Ring-billed, Herring, Bonaparte's, Lesser Black-backed, Great Black-backed, Glaucous, Iceland, Thayer's and California Gulls have all been recorded. Possible European Herring Gull, Yellow-legged Gull and a Slaty-backed Gull have appeared. This beach is also 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. Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers regularly patrol these huge groups, harassing the gulls.

Historic Sites of Canaveral National Seashore

Jan. 27, 8:30pm-4:30pm; Limit 20 Registrants; \$75

John Stiner and Sarah Linney

Meet at EFSC bus circle to board bus. Bring money for lunch at J.B.'s Fish Camp on Mosquito Lagoon.

There are restrooms at each stop except for Castle Windy.

An undeveloped beach with up to 8,000 sea turtle nests each summer contains a variety of resources. Walk with former NPS Ranger John Stiner as he visits four sites and unfolds intriguing secrets. Turtle Mound, one of the tallest, best-known archeological sites in Florida is displayed on Spanish maps in the 16th century, being an important navigational guide. Climb to the top and view a panorama of ocean, estuary and beaches. Castle Windy is a smaller mound, lying in the shadows of maritime hammock on the edge of Mosquito Lagoon. Learn of the mystery here for birders to ponder. Seminole Rest dates back 4,000 years. Archeological discoveries and dialog with Native Americans makes this site worth visiting. El Dora State House displays life along Florida waterway in the early 1900's, reflecting a less hectic era. Learn about a dramatic clash between French Huguenots and Spanish soldiers in 1565 that may have changed the history of Florida, leaving clues about a still undiscovered shipwreck in park waters.

Little-Big Econ State Forest

Jan. 25, 26, 27 & 28; 5:45am-11:30am; Limit 20 registrants; \$35

Lorne Malo with Additional Experts

Meet In front of the EFSC Gym to arrange for car pool.

No restrooms at either site. Convenience store stops required. Please make a purchase.

Biologist Lorne Malo will lead this trip to visit two sections of the state forest, starting at the Barr Street entrance of the Demetree Tract with a hike through open fields and riparian woodlands to the Econlockhatchee River. Here Sedge Wren, Hermit Thrush, Red-headed and Pileated Woodpecker, Blue-headed Vireo, Northern Parula, Orange-crowned and Black-throated Green Warbler, and Northern Oriole might be found. Next we'll visit the Kilbee Tract portion of the State Forest along the St. Johns River in search of raptors, marsh birds, shorebirds, waterfowl and songbirds. 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. 27, 8:00am-10:00am; Limit 15 Registrants; \$15

Chris O'Hara

Meet at Malabar Scrub Sanctuary, 1501 Malabar Woods Blvd., Malabar, FL.

Restrooms are available at the adjacent Malabar Community Park.

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

Marl Bed Flats - Lake Jesup CA

Jan. 25, 27 & 29, 6:00am-11:30am; Limit 20 Registrants; \$35

Tom Dunkerton with Additional Experts

Meet In front of the EFSC Gym to arrange for car pool.

No restrooms at the site. Convenience store stops required. Please make a purchase.

The Marl Bed Tract has the prettiest oak hammock on Lake Jesup. It borders a pasture/wet prairie presenting an excellent diversity of habitat. 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. Exiting the hammock, a walk onto the floodplains of Lake Jesup's marsh vegetation and surrounding pastures can be filled with many surprises. Henslow's, LeConte's and Lincoln Sparrows, a male Vermillion Flycatcher and American Woodcock have been seen here. Eastern Meadowlarks, Savannah Sparrows, American Pipits, Least Sandpipers and other shorebirds will be encountered 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. Be prepared to walk 2-3 miles and wear good shoes as the footing can be uncertain in the pasture due to muddy holes made by cow's hoofs.

Miniature Wonders: Micro-Life Hike

Jan. 27, 9:00am-11:00am; Limit 20 Registrants; \$15

Ariel Horner

Meet at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 444 Columbia Blvd., Titusville, FL. Bring your macro lens and delve into the world of micro-life! Discover the under-appreciated world of tiny insects, spiders, lichens and more. EEL Naturalist Ariel Horner will introduce you to the amazing biodiversity often missed by the average passerby. While photography is not the focus of this hike, there will be plenty of opportunities to photograph the tiny flora and fauna that abounds in Central Florida. Magnifying glasses will be provided for the duration of the hike.

Nocturnal Nature Hike Enchanted Forest

Jan. 27, 7:00pm-9:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; \$15

Joe Swingle & Patty Rendon

Meet at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 444 Columbia Blvd., Titusville, FL. Please wear closed-toe shoes. Bring water, bug spray and flashlight. Whoooo... is ready for a nocturnal adventure at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary? Join Naturalists on a night of discovery and exploration.

Nocturnal Trailer Tour of Fox Lake

Jan. 27, 7:00pm-9:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; \$15

Ariel Horner, Mike Knight & Selena Kiser

Meet at entrance to Fox Lake Park, 4400 Fox Lake Rd., Titusville, FL. Bring a flashlight.

This is an after-dark driving tour of the nature sanctuary. Visitors will ride on a trailer with bench seating. Some limited seating is also available in 4x4 vehicles. The trip will include a ½-mile hike with owl calling experience.

North Brevard Hot Spots

Jan. 25, 26, & 28, 6:30am-2:00pm; Limit 22 Registrants; \$70

Doug Stuckey with Additional Experts

Meet at the EFSC bus circle to board the bus.

Bring money for lunch at Dixie Crossroads. There are porta-potties at Hatbill Park, a convenience store stop in Mims, and porta-potties at Canaveral National Seashore.

Join Doug and other leaders for a laid back car trip through the pines and palmettos of North Brevard's scrublands and wetlands to learn about some of our favorite, but not so famous, hot spots. Northern Brevard Co. has much to offer in well-known birding sites like Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge and Canaveral National Seashore. We also have productive, yet lesser-known areas, including Seminole Ranch, Hatbill Park, Buck Lake, Salt Lake, Hammock Road and others. Along with the usual wading birds, shorebirds, waterfowl and 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 tallied approximately 108 species over the years. Trip requires moderate walking. Specific sites to be visited will be determined during pre-festival scouting trips and will include Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge and Canaveral National Seashore.

Orlando Wetlands Park Trailer Tour

Jan. 28, 29 & 30, 6:00am-11:30am; Limit 20; \$50

Bruce Anderson and Murray Gardler with Additional Experts

Meet at the Orlando Wetlands Park parking lot.

Restrooms are available at the entrance but not out on the dikes.

This regional water treatment area, owned by the City of Orlando, began receiving reclaimed water in 1987, submerging the 1700-acre Sun Charm Ranch beneath millions of gallons of treated sewage. For 30 years the City closed the park during winter months for hunting until last year when it bought the rights from the former owners. Join us as we take the first winter trips into the park where more than 220 bird species have been identified including Wood Storks, Bald Eagles, Crested Caracaras, Limpkins, Purple Gallinules, rails and spoonbills. Painted Buntings lurk in some of the dense vegetation bordering the 20 miles of roads and woodland trails leading through marshes, hardwood hammocks and along scenic lakes. Large numbers of waterfowl are expected. We will be touring on a wagon. There will be several stops with extensive walking to spy the best birds. Bring binoculars; the leaders will have scopes if you don't want to bring yours. Bruce will bring a collection of mounts to show size and field marks of waterfowl.

Pioneer Hike to Pine Island Conservation Area

Jan. 29, 10:30pm-1:30pm, Limit 20 Registrants; \$15

Martha Pessaro

Meet at Sams House, 6195 N. Tropical Trail, Merritt Island, FL.

The John H. Sams Family settled the area known as Courtenay on North Merritt Island. Moderate hiking on 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 and 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. 29, 7:00am-10:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$35

Dee & David Simpson

Meet at Oak Hammock Trail, 1/2 mile E of MINWR Visitor Center.

Restrooms available at MINWR Visitor Center, which opens at 8am.

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

Jan. 28, 12:00pm-2:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; \$15

Jay Barnhart and Jim Stahl

Meet at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 444 Columbia Blvd., Titusville, FL.

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 volunteer naturalist and avid mushroom hobbyist Jay Barnhart and retired land manager and biologist Jim Stahl. Your leisurely guided walk will encompass the well-named Biodiversity Loop Trail, which passes through mesic, hydric and xeric ecosystems. Continuation on the abutting Magnolia Loop leads through a forest canopy of impressively large southern magnolias and stately old oak trees.

Playalinda Beach: Sea-birding from Shore

Jan. 28 & 29, 7:15am-10:30am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$40

Mitchell Harris and Additional Experts

Meet at the Parrish Park Boat Ramp parking lot.

Porta-potties available.

Sea-watching is looking for birds over the ocean from shore. This is best done with Spotting scope and binoculars. It's more challenging than most other forms of birding because one has to learn to identify most of the birds in flight. This field class will focus on clues to look for and how best to approach identifying flying seabirds. Learn 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. Some of January possibilities from Playalinda include: 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.

Red-cockaded Woodpeckers & More at Hal Scott

Jan. 29, 5:15am-11:30am; Limit 16 Registrants; \$50

Maria Zondervan and Lorne Malo with Additional Experts

Meet at EFSC bus circle to car pool.

There are no restrooms at the site or during the tour!

Join biologists Maria Zondervan and Lorne Malo at the Hal Scott Regional Preserve and Park for an exciting eco-buggy adventure in pursuit of some of east Orange County's resident birds. We will start 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. Portions of the site may require crossing mud and standing water, so be prepared for a wet and wild adventure! Water-friendly footwear is preferable.

Ritch Grissom Memorial Wetlands at Viera

Jan. 25, 26 & 29, 6:30am-11:30am; Limit 18 Registrants; \$55

Michael O'Brien and Louise Zemaitis

There are porta-potties at the entrance but not out on the dikes.

Join well-known guide, author and illustrator Michael O'Brien (*Flight Calls of Migratory Birds*, *The Shorebird Guide*, *America's 100 Most Wanted Birds*) and artist and naturalist Louise Zemaitis for an intimate and laid back morning of birding at one of Brevard County's premier birding sites. Since its opening, this site has rapidly gained popularity with 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. A variety of waterfowl winters here. Several families of Crested Caracaras maintain territories around the wetlands, and Limpkins and Black-bellied Whistling Ducks are regularly seen. 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 and Brevard County's first record of a Masked Duck.

Salt Lake WMA/Seminole Ranch Conservation Area

Jan. 26 & 27, 6:45am-11:30am; Limit 20 Registrants; \$15

Dave Turner and Bryan Ames with Additional Experts

Meet at Salt Lake WMA, 1590 Arch Rd., Mims.

Porta-potties located at the Salt Lake WMA main entrance. No restroom facilities available during trip. This adventure will utilize trailers pulled by 4-wheel drive trucks. Participants will sit on hay bales.

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. 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.

Scottsmeer Flatwoods Sanctuary Trailer Tour

Jan. 25; 9:00am-11:00am; Limit 16 Registrants; \$15

Ron Chicone, Ariel Horner and Selena Kiser

Meet at Scottsmeer Flatwoods, 6000 Magoon Ave., Mims FL.

Restrooms available at adjacent Parrish Park.

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.

Smyrna Dunes Park

Jan. 25 & 26; 8:00am-12:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; \$30

Wes Biggs with Additional Experts

Meet at Smyrna Dunes Park, 2995 N. Peninsula Ave., New Smyrna Beach.

Entry Fee is \$10 per car. Restrooms available at park entrance.

This spectacular beachside park at Ponce Inlet offers panoramic views of the ocean, inlet and estuary as well as the opportunity to get close looks at gulls, terns and shorebirds. Take a leisurely two-mile walk via boardwalk over pristine coastal dune habitat (watch for Gopher Tortoises) and along the shoreline, beginning around high tide when birds are concentrated along the shore. This allows for close observation and practice of identification. Brown and White Pelicans, Black Skimmers, Common Loons, cormorants and numerous species of gulls and terns are found here and there is always a chance to discover a rare gull. Up to twenty species of shorebirds are possible, including American Oystercatchers, Piping and Wilson's Plovers, Purple Sandpipers and Red Knots. Bait fish activity at the inlet's mouth attracts sea birds, especially Northern Gannets. Sparrows and passerines are possible in the salt marsh.

South Lake Conservation Area

Jan. 25, 9:00am-11:00am; Limit 20 Registrants; \$15

Xavier de Seguin Des Hons and Michael Wielenga

Meet at South Lake CA, 4500 Lancaster Lane, Titusville, FL.

No restroom facilities.

The South Lake Conservation Area is a 155-acre property managed by the Environmentally Endangered Lands (EELs) Program following its 1999 acquisition from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a Florida Scrub-Jay mitigation. This land consists primarily of scrub and scrubby flatwoods



Historic Pritchard House & Garden Tour

Jan. 26 & 27, 2:30pm-4:30pm; Limit 25 Registrants; \$20

Jan. 28, 10:30am-12:30pm; Limit 25 registrants; \$20

Roz Foster

Meet at the Pritchard House, 424 S. Washington Ave. (US 1), Titusville, FL.

This fine example of Queen Anne style architecture was built of heart pine on this site in 1891 for Capt. James Pritchard and family. Capt. Pritchard organized Titusville's first bank in 1888, and later built Titusville's first electric generating plant. The house was placed on the National Register in 1990. Five generations of Pritchards continuously occupied the house until it was purchased by the County for preservation in 2005. The house has been beautifully restored and is furnished with period antiques and accessories. Various collections are exhibited throughout the house with tours conducted by docents in period dress. See a display of vintage feathered hats and learn how early conservation efforts established laws to prohibit the slaughter of native birds. Gardens with plaques that tell the history of early settlers are open for self-guided tours throughout the day. Song birds, ospreys, and egrets often visit. For additional information call 321-607-0203 or visit www.pritchardhouse.com.

Historic Sites of Canaveral Nat'l Seashore

Jan. 27, 8:30pm-4:30pm; Limit 20 Registrants; \$75

John Stiner and Sarah Linney

Meet at EFSC bus circle to board bus. Bring money for lunch at J.B.'s Fish Camp on Mosquito Lagoon.

There are restrooms at each stop except for Castle Windy.

An undeveloped beach with up to 8,000 sea turtle nests each summer contains a variety of resources. Walk with former NPS Ranger John Stiner as he visits four sites and unfolds intriguing secrets. Turtle Mound, one of the tallest, best-known archeological sites in Florida is displayed on Spanish maps in the 16th century, being an important navigational guide. Climb to the top and view a panorama of ocean, estuary and beaches. Castle Windy is a smaller mound, lying in the shadows of maritime hammock on the edge of Mosquito Lagoon. Learn of the mystery here for birders to ponder. Seminole Rest dates back 4,000 years. Archeological discoveries and dialog with Native Americans makes this site worth visiting. El Dora State House displays life along Florida waterway in the early 1900's, reflecting a less hectic era. Learn about a dramatic clash between French Huguenots and Spanish soldiers in 1565 that may have changed the history of Florida, leaving clues about a still undiscovered shipwreck in park waters.

communities, which were overgrown as a result of 20 to 40 years of fire exclusion. In December 2008 four Florida Scrub-Jays were successfully relocated onto the property by the Brevard Zoo and the EELs Program. In addition, two birds naturally moved to the property. The site is currently home to several Florida Scrub-Jay families. Join this field trip to explore the conservation area, observe the native flora, watch the Florida Scrub-Jay flyovers and occasional landings on your head. Another asset of this land is that it sits right in Titusville for wonderful morning and afternoon hikes.

St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park

Jan. 25 & 26, 4:30am-12:00pm; limit 15 Registrants, \$75

Samantha McGee and David Simpson with Additional Expert

Meet at bus circle at EFSC to board bus.

There are restrooms at the Visitor Center at the Park. No restrooms are available during the trailer tour, which will last approx. 3 ½ hours. Snack packs are included. You may want to bring snacks 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. Join us on this exclusive trip where the small group size will provide an extraordinary experience and reduce stress on the birds. The early start allows us to catch Red-cockaded Woodpeckers leaving their nest cavities around sunrise. Many pinewoods specialties call this 22,000+ acre site home. Several Red-cockaded Woodpecker families and more than 40 families of Florida Scrub-Jays are found here. Bachman's Sparrows are abundant, though only just beginning to sing at this time. Brown-headed Nuthatches commonly join the foraging flocks of songbirds. 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 others.

T. M. Goodwin WMA – Broadmoor Unit

Jan. 27, 5:00am-1:00pm; Limit 22 Registrants; \$75

David Simpson with Additional Experts

Meet at bus circle at EFSC to board bus.

Snack packs included. There are limited restroom facilities, with about 3-4 hours between restroom stops.

Join us for a special driving tour of the back side of this 3,870-acre wetland restoration project located in the Upper Basin of the St. Johns River. The Upper Basin Project is a model for the much larger endeavor to restore Florida's Everglades. This is the best trip of the Festival for the possibility of seeing Fulvous Whistling-ducks and Gray-headed (Purple) Swamphens. Snail Kites have become downright common and we should have good looks at Roseate Spoonbills, Limpkins, Purple Gallinules and more. It takes a while to get to the Broadmoor Unit and to sort through the abundance of waterfowl and wading birds. Although we may have to pass by some birds on the way, the end result will be worthwhile.

Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area

Jan. 25, 26 & 27, 6:15am-11:30am; Limit 16 Registrants; \$40

Lynn Proenza and Casy Dorsch with Additional Experts

Meet at Tosohatchee WMA, 3365 Taylor Creek Rd., Christmas, FL.

There is a porta-pottie located at the entrance. No restrooms are located along the roads inside the reserve. Car pool.

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 Florida. Bordering 19 miles of the St. Johns River in eastern Orange County, the reserve is named for Tootoosahatchee Creek, which flows through its northern portion.

Turkey Creek Tract - Charles H. Bronson State Forest

Jan. 25 & 27; 6:45am-11:00am; Limit 9 Registrants; \$50

Stephen Stipkovits and David Hartgrove with Additional Expert Meet at Chuluota Wilderness Area, 3800 Curryville Rd., Chuluota, FL.

There are no restrooms at site. No restrooms available during trip. 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 are pasture interspersed with hardwood hammocks and pine flatwoods, which are home to hundreds of Sandhill Cranes, dozens of Wild Turkey, Northern Bobwhite, 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. 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. 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.

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

Jan. 25 & 27, 9:00am-3:30pm; Limit 16 Registrants; \$25

Jim Stahl and Jay Barnhart

Meet at the MINWR Visitor Center. Bring money for lunch.

The many habitats of Florida (deciduous forest, oak/palm hammocks, pine flatwoods, scrub, sand hills, coastal dunes, prairies, marshes, swamps, roadsides) support more than 4,000 species of native and naturalized plants as well as many horticultural exotics. Over one-quarter of these are found here on the refuge. Our day will start with slides of the more common plants on the refuge followed by short walks thru an oak hammock, pine flatwoods, scrub, and by a brackish marsh. Commentary will include identification hints, family relationships, habitats, plant uses by people and wildlife, and good plant books. During the day when we come across birds, reptiles, spiders, butterflies and other insects, we will point them out also, but emphasis will be on the plants. The refuge is home to many beautiful and unique plants and animals and you never know what you might encounter.

Zellwood and Lake Apopka

Jan. 26, 27 & 28, 5:30am-4:30pm, Limit 25 Registrants; \$95

Jan. 26: Jim Peterson with Dave Goodwin and Additional Experts;

Jan. 27: Pam Bowen with Adam & Gina Kent and Paddy Cunningham;

Jan. 28: Gian Basili with Additional Experts

Meet at EFSC bus circle to board bus.

Box lunches will be provided. Wear comfortable closed-toed shoes. Porta-potties available at different spots throughout the trip.

This may be one of the best birding areas on the Eastern Seaboard. In the 1940s, Lake Apopka's north shore marsh was drained to create farms. Farming required flooding the fields to kill nematodes. The water drained into the lake creating habitat for migrating shorebirds. The St. Johns River Water Management District purchased the farms in the 1980s and 1990s to restore wetland habitat and improve water quality in Lake Apopka. Shorebirds remained into winter and were joined by unprecedented numbers of waterfowl. Flycatchers, sparrows, and other passerines also used the area. In 1998, the first Christmas Bird Count here established a national inland record with 174 species. Highlights from previous fieldtrips include as many as 13 sparrow species, including LeConte's and Clay-colored, and unique flycatcher species like Western, Tropical and Gray Kingbirds and Ash-throated Flycatchers. First state records of Rough-legged Hawk, Eurasian Kestrel, and Ferruginous Hawk were recorded here.

field trip leaders

Angel Abreu - Nature is Awesome Birding Tours
Mariel Abreu - Nature is Awesome Birding Tours
Richard Amable - Manu Expeditions
Bryan Ames - Florida Fish & Wildlife

Conservation Commission
Bruce Anderson - Florida Ornithological Society
George Armistead - Rockjumper Worldwide

Birding Adventures
Amar Ayyash - Blogger/Speaker/Gull Expert
Gian Basili - Florida Inland Navigation District
Cindy Beckman - Cheepers! Birding on a Budget
Carlos Bethancourt - Canopy Family
Wes Biggs - Florida Nature Tours
Pam Bowen - St Johns River Water Management

District
David Breininger, PhD - Kennedy Space Center
Ecological Program

Michael Brothers - Executive Director, Marine
Science Center

Chris Brown - Wildside Nature Tours
Paddy Cunningham - Birding Adventures
Jim Danzenbaker - Maven
Casey Dorsch - Florida Fish & Wildlife
Conservation Commission

Tom Dunkerton - Opticon
Jim Eager - Obsessive Compulsive Birding
Roz Foster - North Brevard Heritage Foundation
Sam Fried - Flights of Fancy Adventures
Murray Gardler - Florida Ornithological Society

Reinhard and Jutta Geisler - Friends of Orlando
Wetlands Park

Dave Goodwin - Florida Nature Tours
Karen Hamblett - Friends of Orlando Wetlands
Park

Mitchell Harris - Florida Ornithological Society
David Hartgrove - Florida Nature Tours
Matt Heyden - Space Coast Audubon

João Jara - Birds & Nature Tours, Portugal
Kevin Karlson - Kevin T. Karlson Photography
Mary Keim - Friends of Orlando Wetlands Park

Adam Kent - Florida Ornithological Society
Gina Kent - Avian Research and Conservation
Institute

Selina Kiser - Wildlife Biologist
Ethan Kistler - Birding Africa
Robert Knight - Howard T. Odum Springs
Institute

Alex Lamoreaux - Wildside Nature Tours
Tom Langshied - King's Ranch
David La Puma - Executive Director, Cape May
Bird Observatory

Sarah Linney - Space Coast Audubon
John Lowry - American Birding Association
Lora Losi - Space Coast Audubon
Lorne Malo - Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation
Commission

Nancy McAllister - Wildside Nature Tours
Samantha McGee - Florida Park Service
Greg Miller - Wildside Nature Tours
Justin Nicolau - Birding Ecotours
Michael O'Brien - Victor Emanuel Nature Tours
Jim Peterson - St Johns River Water
Management District
Lynn Proenza - Florida Fish & Wildlife
Conservation Commission

Tom Reed - Wildside Nature Tours
Joel Reynolds - Nature Photographer
Marie Rust - Bear Track Studios
Betty Salter - Volunteer, Merritt Island National
Wildlife Refuge

Paul Schmalzer, PhD - Kennedy Space Center
Ecological Program

Debra Segal - Wetlands Scientist
David Simpson - Birding with David Simpson
Dee Fairbanks Simpson - Space Coast Audubon
Randy Snyder - Friends of Orlando Wetlands
Park

Ned Steel - Merritt Island National Wildlife
Association
Bill Stewart - Director of Conservation
and Community, ABA

John Stiner - Canaveral National Seashore
(Retired)
Stephen Stipkovits - Florida Forest Service

Doug Stuckey - Space Coast Audubon
Bill Thompson III -- Bird Watcher's Digest
Dave Turner - Florida Fish & Wildlife
Conservation Commission

Ray Van Buskirk - Birding Research and Nature
Tours
Sam Woods - Tropical Birding
Ric Zarwell - Rockjumper Worldwide Birding
Adventures

Louise Zemaits - Victor Emanuel Nature Tours
Maria Zondervon - St Johns River Water
Management District

Environmentally Endangered Lands Program

Jay Barnhart - Friends of the Enchanted Forest
and Florida Native Plant Society
Sharon Bohlman - Friends of the Enchanted
Forest

Susan Boorse - Environmental Program
Supervisor, Brevard County Parks &
Recreation

Ron Chicone - Forestry Technician, EEL North
Region
Xavier de Seguín Des Hons - EEL North Region
Manager

Ariel Horner - Naturalist, EEL North Region
Kaitlin Hurley - Naturalist, EEL Central Region
Mike Knight - Executive Director - Brevard
County EEL Program

Vince Lamb - Nature Photographer and Activist
Chris O'Hara - EEL South Region Manager
Martha Pessaro - Sanctuary Steward, EEL
Central Region

Patty Rendon - Sanctuary Steward, EEL North
Region
Jim Stahl - MIWA, Friends of Enchanted Forest
and Florida Native Plant Society

Joe Swingle - Naturalist, EEL North Region
Michael Wielenga - EEL North Region Assistant
Manager

Elaine Williams - Friends of the Enchanted
Forest and Indian River Anthropological
Society

Keith Winsten - Executive Director, Brevard Zoo

schedule of paid activities

20th Annual Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival

Contact Information: Barbara Hoelscher 321-268-5888 or Barb@brevardnaturealliance.org

Please review the information below before REGISTERING ONLINE at www.SCBWF.org

Registration Information

All registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Register early to avoid missing out on a favorite field trip, workshop, keynote, boat trip or photography activity. Payment may be made by VISA, MasterCard, American Express or Discover. If the activity you want is filled, you may indicate a 2nd choice. **Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult at all times.**

- Full Festival Registration Fee is \$85. This includes entrance to all afternoon socials, Exhibit Center, Art Show & Exhibit Fair, and as many classroom presentations as you wish to attend from Wed.-Sun. Classrooms presentations 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 a registered paying adult.
- YOU MUST HAVE your Festival ID Lanyard to participate in field trips, workshops, classroom presentations, keynotes, boat trips, photography activities and socials.
- Watch www.SCBWF.org for updates on activities that are filled, reopened, or cancelled.

Register Online

Go to www.SCBWF.org for quick and secure online registration - 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 made by 5:00pm on Dec. 31, 2016 will receive a full refund less a \$35 administration fee. Cancellations made by 5:00pm on Jan. 11, 2017 will receive a 50% refund less a \$35 administration fee. No refunds will be made for cancellations after Jan. 11, 2017 or for no-shows.

The festival reserves the right to cancel, change or substitute an activity if deemed necessary. Cancelled activities not substituted or replaced will be refunded within 30 to 60 days after the festival. Refund will be processed on original form of payment.

Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2017

Birding & Wildlife Activities

4:30am-12:00pm	St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park.....	p. 14.....	\$75
5:00am-4:00pm	Central Florida Specialties	p. 9.....	\$95
5:45am-11:30am	Little-Big Econ State Forest	p. 11.....	\$35
6:00am-11:30am	Marl Bed Flats - Lake Jesup CA.....	p. 11.....	\$35
6:15am-11:30am	Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area.....	p. 14.....	\$40
6:30am-2:00pm	North Brevard Hot Spots	p. 12.....	\$70
6:30am-11:30am	Ritch Grissom Mem. Wetlands at Viera.....	p. 13.....	\$60
6:45am-11:30am	Turkey Creek Tract - C. H. Bronson SF.....	p. 15.....	\$50
8:00am-12:00pm	Birding by Impression for Beginners	p. 18.....	\$45
8:00am-12:00pm	Smyrna Dunes Park.....	p. 13.....	\$30
9:00am-11:00am	Scottsmoor Flatwoods Sanct. Trailer Tour.....	p. 13.....	\$15
9:00am-11:00am	South Lake Conservation Area.....	p. 13.....	\$15
9:00am-3:30pm	Wildflowers, Plants, & Other Things.....	p. 15.....	\$25
1:00pm-4:30pm	Gull ID at Brevard County Landfill.....	p. 18.....	\$25
1:00pm-3:00pm	Beginning Bird Walk at Chain of Lakes.....	p. 15.....	\$15
1:00pm-2:30pm	Florida's Winter Warblers Indoor WS.....	p. 18.....	\$25
3:30pm-5:00pm	Shorebirds by Impression Indoor ID WS.....	p. 19.....	\$25

4:00pm-7:00pm	Black Rails and the St. Johns NWR	p. 9.....	\$50
6:30pm-7:30pm	Keynote: Capt. Rodney Smith	p. 5.....	\$10

Photography Activities

5:30am-9:00am	Amoruso: Sunrise Seashore Lands. PFWS	p. 25.....	\$60
6:00am-9:00am	Colucci: Birds in Flight Photo at MINWR	p. 26.....	\$60
6:00am-10:00am	Dow: Sunrise Bird & Photo FWS: MINWR.....	p. 27.....	\$60
6:30am-10:00am	Buckler: Bird Photo at Orlando Wet Park.....	p. 26.....	\$60
7:00am-10:00am	Verma: Photowalks with Shiv Verma	p. 31.....	\$15
8:00am-11:00am	Wilson: Digiscoping With Robert Wilson	p. 31.....	\$15
10:30am-12:00pm	Amoruso: Digital Image Proc.: Beg.-Int.	p. 25.....	\$35
10:30am-12:00pm	Colucci: Flash Photography for Wildlife	p. 27.....	\$35
10:30am-12:00pm	Slonina: Lightroom: Develop Module	p. 30.....	\$35
1:00pm-2:30pm	Thoman: Take Your Camera off Auto!.....	p. 30.....	\$35
2:30pm-6:30pm	Slonina: Orlando Wetlands Wildlife Photo	p. 30.....	\$60
3:00pm-6:30pm	Colucci: Bird, Wildlife & Sunset at Viera.....	p. 26.....	\$60
3:00pm-6:30pm	Buckler: Bird Photography at MINWR	p. 25.....	\$60
3:00pm-4:30pm	Verma: Mirrorless Cameras for Bird Photo	p. 31.....	\$15
3:15pm-6:30pm	Amoruso: Merritt Island NWR: Photo FWS	p. 25.....	\$60
3:30pm-6:00pm	Thoman: Take your Camera off Auto!.....	p. 30.....	\$60

Thursday, Jan. 26, 2017

Birding & Wildlife Activities

4:30am-12:00pm	St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park	p. 14.....	\$75
5:30am-4:30pm	Zellwood and Lake Apopka	p. 15.....	\$95
5:45am-11:30am	Little-Big Econ State Forest	p. 11.....	\$35
6:15am-11:30am	Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area.....	p. 14.....	\$40
6:30am-2:00pm	North Brevard Hot Spots	p. 12.....	\$70
6:30am-11:30am	Ritch Grissom Mem. Wetlands at Viera.....	p. 13.....	\$60
6:45am-11:30am	Salt Lake WMA/Seminole Ranch CA	p. 13.....	\$15
7:30am-9:30am	Birding by Ear	p. 8.....	\$15
8:00am-12:00pm	Beg. Birding Intro & Field Trip at MINWR.....	p. 8.....	\$25
8:00am-12:00pm	Smyrna Dunes Park	p. 13.....	\$30
8:00am-12:00pm	FL Shorebirds by Impression for Beg.	p. 18.....	\$45
8:30am-10:30am	FL Scrub-Jay Hike at Cruickshank Sanct.	p. 10.....	\$15
9:00am-12:00pm	Dicerandra Scrub Sanctuary Walk	p. 9.....	\$15
9:00am-11:00am	Fox Lake Trailer Tour	p. 11.....	\$15
1:00pm-3:00pm	Beginning Bird Walk at Chain of Lakes.....	p. 15.....	\$15
1:00pm-2:30pm	Learning Gull ID Indoor Workshop.....	p. 19.....	\$25
2:30pm-4:30pm	Historic Pritchard House & Gardens Tour.....	p. 14.....	\$20

3:30pm-5:00pm	Sparrow ID Indoor Workshop	p. 19.....	\$25
3:30pm-6:00pm	Gull Fly-In at Daytona Beach Shores	p. 11.....	\$45
4:00pm-7:00pm	Black Rails and the St. Johns NWR	p. 9.....	\$50
6:30pm-7:30pm	Keynote: David La Puma.....	p. 6.....	\$20

Photography Activities

6:00am-9:00am	Amoruso: Sunrise Photo. - Cocoa Bch. Pier.....	p. 25.....	\$60
6:00am-9:30am	Buckler: Bird Photography at MINWR	p. 25.....	\$60
6:30am-10:30am	Dow: Sunrise Birding Photo Trek: OWP	p. 27.....	\$60
7:00am-10:00am	Verma: Photowalks with Shiv Verma	p. 31.....	\$15
8:00am-11:30am	Reynolds: Photo Trip to Brevard Co. Landfill	p. 29.....	\$20
8:00am-11:00am	Taylor: Digiscoping Field WS	p. 31.....	\$15
10:30am-12:00pm	Buckler: Finalize Your Vision: Proc. & Org.	p. 26.....	\$35
10:30am-12:00pm	Colucci: 4 Keys for Making Great Images.....	p. 27.....	\$35
10:30am-12:00pm	Slonina: Fund. of Landscape Photo.....	p. 29.....	\$35
1:00pm-2:30pm	Hubbard: From Birds to Butterflies.....	p. 27.....	\$35
2:30pm-6:30pm	Dow: Avian Adv. & Sunset Silhouettes: Viera	p. 27.....	\$60
2:30pm-6:30pm	Slonina: MINWR Wildlife, Lands. & Night Photo.....	p. 29.....	\$60
3:00pm-4:30pm	Taylor: Digiscoping with Digital SLR Cameras	p. 31.....	\$15
3:00pm-6:30pm	Amoruso: Orlando WP: Photo FWS.....	p. 25.....	\$60

Friday, Jan. 27, 2017

Birding & Wildlife Activities

5:00am-1:00pm	T. M. Goodwin WMA - Broadmoor Unit	p. 14	\$75
5:00am-4:00pm	Central Florida Specialties	p. 9	\$95
5:30am-4:30pm	Zellwood and Lake Apopka	p. 15	\$95
5:45am-11:30am	Little-Big Econ State Forest	p. 11	\$35
6:00am-11:30am	Marl Bed Flats - Lake Jesup CA	p. 11	\$35
6:15am-11:30am	Tosohatchee Wildlife Management Area	p. 14	\$40
6:45am-11:30am	Turkey Creek Tract - C. H. Bronson SF	p. 15	\$50
6:45am-11:30am	Salt Lake WMA/Seminole Ranch CA	p. 13	\$15
7:20am-10:30am	A Walk at Blue Heron Wetlands	p. 8	\$25
8:00am-12:00pm	FL Shorebirds by Impression for Int.-Adv.	p. 18	\$45
8:00am-10:00am	Birding for Beginners	p. 9	\$15
8:00am-10:00am	Malabar Scrub Hiking Tour	p. 11	\$15
8:30am-12:30pm	Florida Scrub-Jay & Scrub Fire Ecology	p. 10	\$15
8:30am-4:30pm	Hist. Sites of Canaveral Nat'l Seashore	p. 14	\$75
9:00am-11:30am	Miniature Wonders: Micro-Life Hike	p. 12	\$15
9:00am-3:30pm	Wildflowers, Plants, & Other Things	p. 15	\$25
1:00pm-3:00pm	Beginning Bird Walk at Chain of Lakes	p. 15	\$15
1:30pm-3:30pm	Florida's Winter Warblers Indoor WS	p. 18	\$25
2:30pm-4:30pm	Historic Pritchard House & Gardens Tour	p. 14	\$20
3:30pm-5:00pm	Birding by Ear Indoor Workshop	p. 18	\$25

Saturday, Jan. 28, 2017

Birding & Wildlife Activities

5:00am-4:00pm	Central Florida Specialties	p. 9	\$95
5:30am-4:30pm	Zellwood and Lake Apopka	p. 15	\$95
5:45am-11:30am	Little-Big Econ State Forest	p. 11	\$35
6:00am-11:30am	Orlando Wetlands Park Trailer Tour	p. 12	\$50
6:30am-12:30pm	Birding by Ear and Habitat	p. 8	\$45
6:30am-2:00pm	North Brevard Hot Spots	p. 12	\$70
7:15am-10:30am	Playalinda Beach: Sea-birding from Shore	p. 13	\$40
7:20am-10:30am	A Drive at Blue Heron Wetlands	p. 8	\$25
8:30am-4:30pm	Beach Birds Intro & Field Trip	p. 8	\$75
8:30am-12:30pm	Florida Scrub-Jay & Scrub Fire Ecology	p. 10	\$15
9:00am-10:45am	Barn Owl Pellet Dissection	p. 20	\$5
10:00am-12:00pm	Beginning Bird Walk at Chain of Lakes	p. 15	\$15
10:30am-12:00am	Eagle Families	p. 10	\$15
10:30am-12:30pm	Historic Pritchard House & Gardens Tour	p. 14	\$20
12:00pm-2:00pm	Plants & Their Uses through History	p. 12	\$15
1:00pm-3:30pm	Port Canaveral & Lagoon Boat Tour, Adult	p. 10	\$35
1:00pm-3:30pm	Port Canaveral & Lagoon Boat Tour, Under 12	p. 10	\$25
2:00pm-4:00pm	Forest Biodiversity Loop Hike	p. 11	\$15
2:45pm-5:00pm	Intro to Birding: Young Birder's Edition	p. 23	\$5

Sunday, Jan. 29, 2017

Birding & Wildlife Activities

5:15am-11:30am	Red-cockaded WP & More at Hal Scott	p. 13	\$50
6:00am-11:30am	Marl Bed Flats - Lake Jesup CA	p. 11	\$35
6:00am-11:30am	Orlando Wetlands Park Trailer Tour	p. 12	\$50
6:30am-12:30pm	Birding by Ear and Habitat	p. 8	\$45
6:30am-11:30am	Ritch Grissom Mem. Wetlands at Viera	p. 13	\$60
7:00am-10:00am	Pish-Free Birding	p. 12	\$35
7:15am-10:30am	Playalinda Beach: Sea-birding from Shore	p. 13	\$40
7:20am-10:30am	A Walk at Blue Heron Wetlands	p. 8	\$25
8:00am-12:00pm	Birding by Impression for Int.-Adv.	p. 18	\$45
8:30am-10:30am	FL Scrub-Jay Hike at Cruickshank Sanct	p. 10	\$15
10:00am-12:30pm	Port Canaveral & Lagoon Boat Tour, Adult	p. 10	\$35

Monday, Jan. 30, 2017

Birding & Wildlife Activities

5:00am-4:00pm	Central Florida Specialties	p. 9	\$95
6:00am-11:30am	Orlando Wetlands Park Trailer Tour	p. 12	\$50

3:30pm-6:00pm	Gull Fly-In at Daytona Beach Shores	p. 11	\$45
6:30pm-7:30pm	Keynote: Donald Kroodsmas	p. 6	\$20
7:00pm-9:00pm	Nocturnal Nature Hike Enchanted Forest	p. 12	\$15
7:00pm-9:00pm	Nocturnal Trailer Tour of Fox Lake	p. 12	\$15

Photography Activities

6:00am-9:30am	Buckler: Bird Photo at MINWR	p. 25	\$60
6:30am-10:30am	Slonina: Photo Birds of Viera Wetlands	p. 30	\$60
7:00am-10:00am	Verma: Photowalks with Shiv Verma	p. 31	\$15
8:00am-11:30am	Reynolds: Photo Trip to Brevard Co. Landfill	p. 29	\$20
8:00am-11:00am	Wilson: Digiscoping With Robert Wilson	p. 31	\$15
10:30am-12:00pm	Buckler: Creating Spect. Coastal Landscape	p. 26	\$35
10:30am-12:00pm	Dow: Everything Owls	p. 27	\$35
10:30am-12:00pm	Ingraham: Introducing P&S Nature Photo	p. 28	\$15
1:00pm-2:30pm	Slonina: Lightroom: Library Module	p. 30	\$35
1:00pm-2:30pm	Taylor: Digiscoping with a Cell Phone	p. 31	\$15
1:30pm-3:30pm	Ingraham: Field Tech. for P&S Nature Photo	p. 28	\$15
2:30pm-6:30pm	Dow: Avian Adv. & Sunset Silhouettes: Viera	p. 27	\$60
3:00pm-4:30pm	Karlson: Advanced Photo Indoor WS	p. 28	\$35
3:00pm-4:30pm	Verma: Macro/Close-up & Image Stack Photo	p. 31	\$35
3:00pm-6:30pm	Colucci: Birds in Flight Photo at MINWR	p. 26	\$60
3:30pm-6:00pm	Hubbard: Capt. Birds & Wildlife in Habitat	p. 27	\$15
5:15pm-8:00pm	Thoman: Nighttime Photo at M. Brewer Bridge	p. 30	\$60

6:00pm-8:30pm	Evening Owl Prowl at Sams House	p. 10	\$15
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Photography Activities

6:00am-10:00am	Slonina: Best of MINWR Bird Photo	p. 29	\$60
6:15am-9:00am	Hubbard: Capt. Birds & Wildlife in Habitat	p. 28	\$15
6:30am-10:00am	Colucci: Bird, Wildlife & Sunset/Sunrise at OWP	p. 26	\$60
6:30am-10:00am	Verma: Photowalks with Shiv Verma	p. 31	\$15
7:00am-11:00am	Karlson: Advanced Photo Field WS	p. 28	\$60
8:00am-10:00am	Ingraham: Adv. & Spec. P&S Nature Photo	p. 28	\$15
8:00am-11:00am	Taylor: Digiscoping Field Workshop	p. 31	\$15
10:30am-12:00pm	Buckler: Finalize Your Vision: Proc. & Org.	p. 26	\$35
10:30am-12:00pm	Dow: Better Bird Photography	p. 27	\$35
10:30am-12:00pm	Thoman: Take Your Camera off Auto!	p. 30	\$35
1:00pm-2:30pm	Karlson: Shooting Outside the Box	p. 29	\$35
1:00pm-2:30pm	Paushter: Beginners' Intro to Lightroom 6	p. 29	\$35
2:30pm-6:30pm	Dow: Avian Adv. & Sunset Silhouettes: Viera	p. 27	\$60
3:00pm-4:30pm	Slonina: MINWR Wildlife, Lands. & Night Photo	p. 29	\$60
3:00pm-4:30pm	Ingraham: Post Proc. for P&S Nature Photo	p. 28	\$15
3:00pm-4:30pm	Taylor: Super Telephoto with Scope: >1000mm	p. 31	\$15
3:00pm-6:30pm	Colucci: Bird, Wildlife & Sunset/Sunrise - OWP	p. 26	\$60
3:30pm-6:00pm	Thoman: Take your Camera off Auto! Walk	p. 30	\$60
5:30pm-8:30pm	Buckler: Photographing the Night Sky	p. 26	\$60

10:00am-12:30pm	Port Canaveral & Lagoon Boat Tour, Under 12	p. 10	\$25
10:30am-1:30pm	Pioneer Hike to Pine Island CA	p. 12	\$15
2:30pm-3:30pm	Keynote: John Moran	p. 7	\$10

Photography Activities

6:00am-9:00am	Colucci: Sunrise & Macro at Cocoa Beach	p. 27	\$60
6:30am-10:30am	Dow: Sunrise Birding Photo Trek: OWP	p. 27	\$60
8:00am-12:00pm	Ingraham: P&S Nature PFWs: Viera Wetlands	p. 28	\$20
10:15am-11:45am	Buckler: Creating Spect. Coastal Landscape	p. 26	\$35
10:15am-11:45am	Slonina: Fund. of Wildlife Photo	p. 29	\$35
12:45pm-2:15pm	Colucci: ABC's of Wildlife & Birding Photo	p. 26	\$35
12:45pm-2:15pm	Dow: Everything Owls	p. 27	\$35
2:30pm-6:30pm	Slonina: MINWR Wildlife, Lands. & Night Photo	p. 29	\$60
3:00pm-6:30pm	Buckler: Bird Photography at Orlando WP	p. 26	\$60

7:00am-1:00pm	Offshore Birding & Wildlife Adventure	p. 10	\$110
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Photography Activities

5:45am-10:00am	Buckler: Bird Photography "Potluck"	p. 26	\$60
6:00am-10:00am	Dow: Sunrise Bird & Photo FWS: MINWR	p. 27	\$60

workshops

Birding by Ear Indoor Workshop

Jan. 27, 3:30pm-5:00pm; \$25

Michael O'Brien

For many birders, both beginner and expert, attempting to learn bird sounds can be a daunting, if not a seemingly impossible task. So many species and so much variation – where does one start? This workshop will get you going by taking an analytical approach and focusing on helpful techniques for remembering bird sounds. Our emphasis will be on birds likely to be heard during the Festival, including some of those hoped-for Florida specialties.

Birding by Impression for Beginners

Jan. 25, 8:00am-12:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; \$45

Kevin Karlson with Additional Experts

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot.

Join Kevin and the other leaders for a relaxed birding experience to Black Point Drive and nearby locations. Our professional guides will share a different approach to birding as highlighted in Kevin's new book in the Roger Tory Peterson Series *Birding by Impression: A Different Approach to Knowing and Identifying Birds* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015). This workshop will be very basic, with information about general bird groups and simpler ID problems. It is geared towards beginning birders who want to take their skills to new levels without confusing terminology or scientific explanations, developing a deeper understanding of birds and bird identification. This trip only accepts 20 participants so you can get to know the leaders and share a different approach to bird ID that is more personal in nature. Come and experience a different way of identifying birds, with the main emphasis on having fun and sharing with others. Kevin will sign copies of the new book during this trip.

Birding by Impression for Intermediate to Advanced Birders

Jan. 29, 8:00am-12:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; \$45

Kevin Karlson with Angel & Mariel Abreu

Meet at the Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot.

Join Kevin and a few other leaders for a relaxed birding experience to Black Point Drive and nearby locations. Our professional guides will share a different approach to birding as highlighted in Kevin's new book in the Roger Tory Peterson Reference Series called *Birding by Impression: A Different Approach to Knowing and Identifying Birds* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015). This approach concentrates initially in the relative size, shape, structure and behavior of every bird, and then fills in the blanks using conventional field marks and details. We will cover more detailed and difficult ID separation, honing your field-craft skills. Only 20 participants will be accepted so that you can get to know the leaders and share a different approach to bird ID that is more personal in nature. Come and experience a different way of identifying and looking at birds, with the main emphasis on having fun and sharing with others. Kevin will sign copies of the new book during this trip.

Florida Shorebirds by Impression for Beginners

Jan. 26, 8:00am-12:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; \$45

Kevin Karlson with Adam & Gina Kent

Meet at the Parrish Park Boat Ramp parking lot.

This workshop is geared towards beginning birders, so we will concentrate on the most basic information about shorebirds and their place in the bird world. Our experienced professional 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. Plumage details are then added to create a more holistic ID picture. The ID approach in this workshop is similar to the one used in Kevin's bestselling book *The Shorebird Guide*. 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.

Florida Shorebirds by Impression for Intermediate to Advanced Birders

Jan. 27, 8:00am-12:00pm; Limit 20 Registrants; \$45

Kevin Karlson with Additional Experts

Meet at the Parrish Park Boat Ramp parking lot.

This workshop is geared towards experienced birders, so we will share more information about their ID than the beginner workshop. Our experienced professional 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. Plumage details are then added to create a more holistic ID picture. This ID approach is similar to the one used in Kevin's bestselling book *The Shorebird Guide* (Houghton Mifflin, 2006). Natural history information is also shared to enhance your appreciation of birds as fascinating members of the natural world. Test your birding and observation skills in this workshop, and learn a different way of identifying birds of all species. Advanced tips on molt strategy and plumage variation will also be covered for some troublesome species such as dowitchers, willets and peeps.

Florida's Winter Warblers Indoor Workshop

Jan. 25 & 27; 1:30pm-3:00pm; \$25

Louise Zemaitis

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 the 25+ species that winter in Florida.

Gull ID at Brevard County Landfill

Jan. 25, 1:00pm-4:30pm; Limit 10 Registrants; \$25

Michael Brothers, Chris Brown & Joel Reynolds

Note: The Brevard Landfill is NOT open to the public. Please do not come here on your own.

The Brevard County Landfill is a very productive birding site. Join us for a rare opportunity to tour where thousands of gulls of different species can be seen with some very knowledgeable gull experts. Possible rare ones include Glaucous 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 birds. We will meet Environmental Scientist, Rita Perini at the Solid Waste Operations Facility. She will give a short description about operations at today's Landfills. She will also provide a safety briefing, have us sign Limits of Liability, assign safety vests then accompany us in their van around the facility while we search for rare gulls.

Learning Gull ID Indoor Workshop

Jan. 26; 1:00pm-2:30pm; \$25

Amar Ayyash

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".

Shorebirds by Impression Indoor ID Workshop

Jan. 25, 3:30pm-5:00pm; \$25

Kevin Karlson

This interactive indoor workshop shares a different approach to field identification that Kevin calls Birding by Impression, A Different Approach to Knowing and Identifying Birds, which is the title of his and Dale Rosselet's new book in the Roger Tory Peterson Reference Series. Shorebirds are the focus of this workshop, and comparative digitized photos encourage the audience to spot differences between similar species in direct side-by-side comparison. This exciting ID approach concentrates initially on basic impressions of size, body shape, structural features and body motion to form a surprisingly accurate mental picture of every bird seen in the field. This ID approach is similar to the one used in Kevin's bestselling book *The Shorebird Guide* (Houghton Mifflin, 2006). Test your birding and observation skills by attending this workshop and guessing the correct species using pertinent ID tips that contribute to your opinion.

Sparrow ID Indoor Workshop

Jan. 26; 3:30pm-5:00pm; \$25

Adam Kent

This workshop introduces the basics for identification of inland sparrows of the eastern U.S. Even though North American sparrows lack the bright colors of many warblers, sparrows' distinctive shapes, interesting behaviors and subtly beautiful patterns can allow you to identify them with only a quick glance. Sure, sparrows with their often secretive behaviors can present identification challenges. 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. This is a great opportunity to get your sparrow fix for the day.

saturday night live festival street party

Jan. 28, 6:00-9:00pm; Downtown Titusville; Free to everyone!

By now, you've been going hard for four days. So take some time to relax and unwind in the quaint atmosphere of Titusville's Downtown Historic District. A band will set the mood! Meet new people and make new friends. Enjoy food trucks, craft beers, cafes and local vendors. Our Exhibitors will have one final opportunity to promote their products and services, not only to the birding festival attendees but also to the local community whose support we cannot do without!

travel & adventure sunday

Jan. 29, 8:30am-2:00pm

Everyone dreams of traveling to stimulating destinations! A unique aspect of the Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival is its impressive collection of business exhibitors that provide exhilarating adventures in far-away places. Have you ever thought about visiting Peru's Mayan ruins at Machu Picchu? Has the idea of staying in a refurbished U.S. Air Force radar tower in the jungles of Panama crossed your mind? How about Africa, Antarctica, Costa Rica, Cuba, Madagascar or Portugal? Expert guides from these destinations and more are here with stunning visuals to tell you all about experiences they offer through twelve one-hour presentations. Take your pick of exotic adventures and awesome accommodations galore! You do not want to miss this remarkable opportunity to check out the best in the business!

the 16th annual art show & competition

The Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival and Titusville Art League are proud to present the 16th Annual Birding & Wildlife Art Show & Competition in Building 3. Entries will be judged on how well they express the natural environments and ecosystems of Florida. Works must have been completed within the last 24 months, and not have been entered in previous SCBWF Shows. Our Youth Art Competition will be held for ages 5-18 years, with judging in separate age categories. Artwork may be 2D (MUST be ready to hang) or 3D. No entry fee for the youth; all artwork will be displayed.

Categories and Operations

Categories: Photography, 2D & 3D Art (includes painting, sculpture, wood, glass, graphics & mixed media). The fee for each item entered into the competition is \$15.

Awards

1st: \$225; 2nd: \$125; 3rd: \$75; 2 Merits: \$25; Prize monies over \$1600.

Entries must be submitted at the EFSC Community Dining Room between 2:00pm and 6:00pm Wed. Jan 25. Please drive around to the rear of the Dining Room for entry.

Judging will be on the morning of Thursday, Jan 26. Artwork will be on display Jan. 26 & 27, 12:00-6:00pm and Jan. 28, 10:00am-4:00pm. All artwork must be picked up on Sunday between 10:30am and 2:00pm.

Info + Competition Rules

Visit the TAL website at www.titusvilleartleague.com and contact Festival Art Show coordinator: Valorie Stanley at blessed-mom@hotmail.com or titusvilleartleague@gmail.com.

classroom presentations

ABA's Young Birder Program

Jan. 28, 1:00pm-2:00pm

Bill Stewart (American Birding Association)

Helping Shape the Future of Birding & How You Can Help The American Birding Association has been committed to inspiring and developing young birder's passion and pursuit of birds and birding for over a quarter of a century. Bill Stewart, Director of Community and Conservation for the American Birding Association will review ABA's role in yesterday's youth birding movement and unveil contemporary programs and the future needs of sustaining young birder's interest and motivation to continue expanding their quest in birding. Learn how other birders and birding organizations support and nurture their home-grown crop of youth birders, both locally and on a national level.

Barn Owls: Nature's Mousetrap

Jan. 28, 11:00am-12:00am

Dr. Richard Raid (University of Florida)

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. Dr. Raid and the UF Barn Owl Project have been featured on CNN, the National Geographic Society's website, and PBS's Nature series. Since 1994, the University of Florida has been involved in a program promoting Barn Owls as a sustainable means of rodent control. Originating from a high school student's science fair project, the UF Barn Owl Program quickly gained the acceptance of the local agricultural industry and hundreds of nesting boxes now dot the Everglades Agricultural Area of south Florida. This area now supports some of the highest Barn Owl densities in North America.

Barn Owl Pellet Dissection

Jan. 28, 9:00am-10:45am; Limit 24 Registrants; \$5

Dr. Richard Raid (University of Florida)

"What's for Dinner?" This workshop is nature's version of CSI! Have you ever wondered what sort of prey raptors feed on? Due to the alkaline nature of a Barn Owl's stomach, the bones and fur of its 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 eaten. 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 their very own owl pellet, and by comparing skeletal remains utilizing bone charts, you will be able to figure out exactly what a Barn Owl eats. Believe it or not, pellet dissection is a favorite lesson at many schools throughout the nation. Adults and kids of all ages will find this workshop highly entertaining and informative. Sterilized pellets, dissecting tools and bone charts will be furnished free of charge.

Bats & Gardens: A Natural Connection

Jan. 28, 1:00pm-2:00pm

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

If your day includes soap, toothpaste, cosmetics, coffee, margarine, chewing gum, candles, paper, ink, wood, fuel, rope, twine, rubber, spices, vegetables, fruit, chocolate, margaritas, air fresheners, or even life-saving medications, you are not only involved with bats, you are dependent on them! Bats hunt over our farmlands, forests, neighborhoods, and even in our cities, consuming millions upon millions

of insects every night. Bats help farmers eliminate their dependence on pesticides and other chemicals that seriously threaten the health of our planet. This program reveals the relationship between bats and plants and explores the many environmental services bats provide as they live out their lives. Learn how you can encourage bats to hunt in your yard and eliminate pesticides from your garden.

Birding by Season

Jan. 28, 4:00pm-5:00pm

Paddy Cunningham (Birding Adventures)

Right Place, Right Time, Right Bird Discover when and how to find the bird you seek, by learning to Bird by Season. Through the use of checklists, annual graphs, range maps and apps you will learn to find target and life birds. The class will include an informative power point, and hand outs. If you have bird apps on your phone bring it.

Birding in Brazil

Jan. 25, 1:00pm-2:00pm

Jim Beckman (Cheepers! Birding on a Budget)

Join us as we take you through 4 biomes in Brazil, from the world-famous Cristalino Lodge in Amazonia, to the Pantanal (the largest freshwater wetlands in the world and home to Jaguars), to the Cerrado savanna which covers 1.2 million square miles, and finally to the Atlantic Forests (home of more endemic bird species than anyplace on earth). Take a tour of this amazing country with Jim, exploring its truly breathtaking scenery, amazing wildlife, and abundant birdlife through photographs and stories. See Jaguars, Harpy Eagles, Hyacinth Macaws and much more.

Birding Madagascar – The Island Continent

Jan. 25 & 28, 1:00pm-2:00pm

and during Travel & Adventure Sunday

Justin Nicolau (Birding Ecotours)

Madagascar is our world's fourth largest island, and is quite simply unique. Home to five endemic bird and mammal families together with half the world's chameleons and various endemic plant families, this massive island is a true wonder to take in and is a must for any world traveler. An astonishing 120 bird species are endemic to the island, making it one of the prime zones of endemism in the world, and include such exciting and exotic groups as the vangas, ground rollers, mesites, couas and asities. Aside from the birds, lemurs vie for attention, from the tiny mouse-lemurs through to the marvelous Sifakas and Indri with their powerful calls resounding through the forest. Join Justin Nicolau from Birding Ecotours as he talks about this verdant paradise.

Birding Manu National Park & Machu Picchu Peru

Jan. 26 & 27, 2:30pm-3:30pm

and during Travel & Adventure Sunday

Richard Amable (Manu Expeditions)

Peru's bird diversity is unquestionably remarkable! Its amazing variety includes 1817 species that range from the high mountains of the Andes and the Pacific Ocean coast to one of the world's richest tropical forests and one of its driest desserts. Don't miss this opportunity to hear Richard Amable, Senior Tour Leader from Manu Expeditions, share his first-hand knowledge and passion for the natural history of Perú, with the topic focused on the birds found in the world renowned "Manú Biosphere Reserve" and the world famous Machu Picchu 15th-century Inca citadel in Perú.

Birding the Great White North – Eh?

Jan. 25, 4:00pm-5:00pm; Jan. 28, 11:00am-12:00pm
and during Travel & Adventure Sunday

Tom Hince (birdwithtom)

Would you love to see a Great Gray Owl? Or a Snowy Owl? Or a Northern Hawk-Owl? How about a million puffins? Or a blizzard of Gannets flying so close you swear you could touch one? Would you like to share an amazing prairie dawn chorus of longspurs, larks and buntings with... almost no one else? Or walk through a boreal bog chock a block full of breeding songbirds? Millions of puffins and seabirds. Magnificent northern owls. Prairie potholes brimming with gaudy shorebirds and waterfowl. Forests wall to wall with breeding warblers and colorful songbirds - singing their hearts out. All of this and stunning scenery is right on your doorstep! Canada is close, safe, economical and so easy to visit. Come and experience the spectacle of birding with your friendly, hockey loving, donut eating neighbors to the north!

Birding the “Hot Spots” of Costa Rica

Jan. 27 & 28, 4:00pm-5:00pm

and during Travel & Adventure Sunday

Paulo Valerio (Holbrook Travel/Selva Verde Lodge & Private Reserve)

Thousands of years ago, rugged volcanic mountain ranges erected barriers between the Caribbean and Pacific lowlands; they formed a land bridge linking North and South American fauna in Costa Rica, making this small country “big” when it comes to biodiversity and a mecca for bird lovers worldwide. Join us for an introduction to birding the varied and splendid “hot spots” of beautiful Costa Rica, and discover how such a great diversity of birds came to exist in such a compact country. Costa Rica boasts around 900 spectacular avian species in easy-to-access habitats and within relatively short distances, making the country a true paradise for birders. Venture across mountain cloud forests, deep into valleys and lowland rainforests, through mangroves, along two ocean coastlines, and everywhere in between. Parrots, toucans, tanagers, trogons, macaws, hummingbirds, motmots and flycatchers are only some of the beautiful birds to be discovered! Paulo Valerio is a well-known birding and natural history specialist from Costa Rica.

Birds and Bromeliads in Neotropical Forests

Jan. 27 & 28, 4:00pm-5:00pm

Teresa Marie Cooper PhD

Many Neotropical forests are home to epiphytic bromeliads that create diverse and complex habitats in forest canopies. Many birds, including warblers, vireos, wrens, ovenbirds, hummingbirds, thrushes, and tanagers, use bromeliads as a water source; as hunting grounds; for nesting material, nesting sites, or nest cover; and for fruits and flowers. The birds, in turn, offer bromeliads such services as pollination and seed dispersal, and provide nutrients for plant growth. Many bromeliads throughout the Neotropical range are threatened by collection and habitat loss, but in Florida, native bromeliads are also experiencing destruction by an invasive bromeliad-eating weevil. The loss of these bromeliads, due to the weevil, are affecting many species, including birds. In this talk, Dr. Cooper will discuss birds and bromeliads, the plight they face in Florida, and what is being done to save Florida's bromeliads.

Birds of South Florida - Subtropical and Neotropical:

Jan. 25, 4:00pm-5:00pm

Angle and Mariel Abreau (Nature is Awesome Tours)

A Taste of South Florida's Birds and Ecosystems Where the north meets the south, the northern temperate zone intermingles with the subtropical influence of the tropics, creating habitats found nowhere else in North America. As a result, the southern tip of Florida's peninsula is rich in avian diversity, both native and exotic introduced origins. Additionally, its proximity to the Caribbean offers the chance of seeing vagrants

and species that are at the northern limits of their range, making South Florida a must-do stop for any birder. Join the enthusiastic Nature is Awesome Tours duo Angel & Mariel Abreu on a fun and informative digital tour of the birds and ecosystems of South Florida. Let us take you through South Florida's unique habitats, highlighting the ecological significance for its residents as well as Neotropical migrants passing through. From the Everglades to the salt pans of the Florida Keys, this adventure will introduce you to South Florida's fabulous birding opportunities. See you there, sandals and shorts optional!

Birds of Southern Portugal

Jan. 25, 2:30pm-3:30pm; Jan. 26, 1:00pm-2:00pm

and during Travel & Adventure Sunday

João Jara (Birds & Nature Tours, Portugal)

Presentation begins with a short film about the Birds of Southern Portugal, followed by a presentation with slides showing the key regions to visit, the main habitats and birds one can see in this country. The focus will be on understanding why Portugal is a wonderful birding destination and in practical aspects, as for example when to visit, other wildlife, other points of interest and travel in Portugal. Questions and discussion are welcome.

Birds of the Rio Grande Valley of Texas

Jan. 26, 4:00pm-5:00pm; Jan. 27, 1:00pm-2:00pm

and during Travel & Adventure Sunday

Sue Griffin (Chairperson, Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival)

There are many reasons to make South Texas your next birding destination: an abundance of locations with a variety of habitats. Shoreline, wetlands, riparian or ranchlands all within a short driving distance. The Rio Grande Valley's diverse ecosystem is home to many native bird species that can only be found in South Texas. These are often termed “Rio Grande Valley Specialty Birds” because they are usually found nowhere else in North America or are especially numerous in the area. Come here Sue Griffin, Chair of the Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival, tell you where to find Plain Chachalaca, Least Grebe, White-tailed Hawk, Aplomado Falcon or Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl; as well as Groove-billed Ani, Buff-bellied Hummingbird, Ringed and Green Kingfishers and many more.

Bridging the Photography - Birding Gap

Jan. 26, 1:00pm-2:00pm; Jan. 28, 2:30pm-3:30pm

and during Travel & Adventure Sunday

Sam Woods (Tropical Birding)

The birding and photography worlds have blended so much that participants do not always know what they are being offered or getting into, while tour companies are losing focus on the kind of trips they are offering. This important talk clears things up by offering a classification of experience types from listing, birding, birding with a camera, bird photography journeys, bird photography tours, and bird photography workshops. It will explain to potential participants the kinds of questions they need to ask and will help leaders develop the best ways to explain what they offer the client. We hope to generate some enthusiastic attendee interaction.

Color of Birds: In Celebration of a Passion

Jan. 26, 2:30pm-3:30pm

Kevin Loughlin (Wildside Nature Tours)

Feathers are what make a bird, a bird. From tiny hummingbirds to the magnificent Jabiru, feathers give birds protection from the elements, enabling them to live in every environment from icy landscapes, to deserts and rain forests. Kevin Loughlin, owner of Wildside Nature Tours, has spent decades photographing the natural world, especially the birds. Through his images, Kevin will share his passion for these amazing creatures, while discussing their natural history, naming and other interesting tidbits. 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.

Crying Wolf: The Proper Use of Playback

Jan. 28, 4:00pm-5:00pm

George L. Armistead (Rockjumper Worldwide Birding Tours)

Using recordings of bird sounds to attract birds (a.k.a. "playback") is a hot-button issue. Today many birding apps that are widely available come stocked with loads of bird sounds that can be deployed by anyone, regardless of experience. In fact, few people are trained to understand the risks to the birds they seek, or the methods for responsible playback. Join Rockjumper Worldwide Birding Adventures' expert birder George Armistead to examine how birds and birders react when someone introduces artificial bird sounds into the environment.

CUBA is Waiting on the Other Side!

Jan. 27, 2:30pm-3:30pm

and during Travel & Adventure Sunday

Angel and Mariel Abreau (Nature is Awesome Tours)

If a time machine existed, would you use it? Join Cuban Americans, Angel & Mariel Abreu of Miami for a visual and audio experience you won't want to miss! Take a journey back in time with us to Cuba, the Caribbean's largest and most beautiful island. In this presentation you'll see Cuba through our eyes, two naturalists who are in love with all things nature and their parent's home country of Cuba! We'll transport you to a different era, one where horse & carriage is still the primary form of transportation. Are you ready to see what Cuba is all about? If you've thought of traveling to Cuba, then you won't want to miss this electrifying presentation of Cuba's endemic birds, its magnificent architecture, its vibrant culture and beautiful colorful people - the Real Cuba!

Endangered North Atlantic Right Whale

Jan. 28, 11:00am-12:00pm

Julie Albert (Marine Resources Council)

The North Atlantic right whale has enchanted observers for centuries, and we're lucky enough to be in their annual calving ground. 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. Named by whalers who deemed them the 'right' whale to hunt, the population may have numbered fewer than 100 individuals by 1935. The practice was banned globally in 1937 and today, the population of only about 500 is most threatened by other human activities. Join Julie Albert 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 trip where North Atlantic right whales and humpback whales have previously been seen.

Everyday Birding

Jan. 28, 1:00pm-2:00pm; Enchanted Forest Sanctuary

Ray Scory (Columnist, Leader, Photographer, Halifax Audubon Society)

Note: This presentation takes place at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary. Ever-evolving in the world of suburban birding and photography, Ray searches the nooks and crannies of his immediate environment, always anticipating the surprise of a spectacular birding experience. His efforts yield a collection of interesting bird images photographed along city streets, parking lots, city parks, neighborhoods and back yards - all close to home. Eighty-seven bird species are presented in the eye-catching Florida slide composition.

Explore Antarctica, Falkland and South Georgia Islands

Jan. 25, 4:00pm-5:00pm; Jan. 27, 1:00pm-2:00pm

and during Travel & Adventure Sunday

Ric Zarwell (Rockjumper Worldwide Birding Adventures)

Rockjumper Worldwide Birding Adventures presents the Classic Expedition to Antarctica, the singular nature experience of a lifetime! This presentation introduces fascinating lives of birds and mammals throughout the Southern Ocean, spectacular vistas, hauntingly beautiful icebergs, and the planet's greatest concentrations of marine wildlife. Thrilling yet comfortable travel begins and ends at Ushuaia, Argentina, southernmost city in the world. We experience an amazing circular route to the gorgeous Falkland Islands, the even more majestic and remote South Georgia Islands, and the incomparable Antarctic continent. The expedition includes the world's last truly pristine wilderness. Walks amongst crowded nesting colonies of nearly a million King Penguins is an experience that defies description. Thrilling pelagic birding and species impossible to see elsewhere are offered throughout. Visits to historic outposts where valuable research continues, and experiences on land for close-up photos of iconic wildlife, are not to be missed.

Frogs and Salamanders

Jan. 27, 3:00pm-5:00pm; Enchanted Forest Sanctuary

Ariel Horner (EEL Naturalist, North Region)

Note: This presentation takes place at Enchanted Forest Sanctuary.

Join EEL Naturalist Ariel Horner for an in-depth class on the amazing amphibian biodiversity in Central Florida. Learn how to identify common frog species by sight and sound, discover what critters you might encounter during different time of the year and participate in hands-on conservation activities. There will be opportunities to meet and photograph different live amphibians in the classroom.

Harpy Eagle Quest into Panama's Darien Province

Jan. 28, 1:00pm-2:00pm

Jim Beckman (Cheepers! Birding on a Budget)

Join us as we take you from the rainforests of Central Panama, to the historic ruins of Panama City, to the Panama Canal, and to the jungles surrounding a remote native village, while enjoying the spectacular avian fauna for which Central America is renowned. This is the story of a group of birders on their quest to observe a young Harpy Eagle that had not yet left its nest in the Darien Province of Panama. Jim and Cindy Beckman led a group of 11 birders to one of the most remote areas of Central America, and they have many anecdotes and photos to share. The group had the good fortune to live for several days among the Embera tribe in a primitive village, the closest site to begin the 7-hour hike to the nest site.

Help Create a Wading Bird App!

Jan. 27, 4:00pm-5:00pm

Dr. Linda Walters, Dr. Melinda Donnelly, Dr. Timothy Hawthorne, Michelle Shaffer

These University of Central Florida affiliates need YOUR input in creating a citizen science wading bird website/phone app to understand success in estuary restoration. In order to expand the scope of data collection on wading bird usage of natural, dead and restored oyster reefs and of natural, highly eroded and stabilized shorelines, they are developing a website accessible via your phone that will enable citizen scientists to add to a database. They have created an initial draft of this application for use in an Indian River Lagoon-based project, and, they would like for the birding community to provide input into the design and implementation. The goal is for the product to be adaptable for estuary restoration in any part of the country. Healthy estuaries are crucial for the long term success of our nation's wading bird populations. You will not want to miss this opportunity to be a part of such an exciting and important project!

Hummingbirds: Jewels of the Bird World**Jan. 26, 4:00pm-5:00pm****Sam Fried (Flights of Fancy Adventures, LLC)**

What is it about the hummingbird that is so fascinating? Small size, amazing flight capability, unusual beauty, aggressive behavior, feeding techniques, multi-hued iridescent feathers all combine to make these tiny birds the gems of western hemisphere birds. This program is illustrated by slides of dozens of species of hummingbirds that range from Alaska to South America and a discussion about why hummingbirds are so unique.

Intro to Birding: Young Birder's Edition**Jan. 28, 2:45pm-5:00pm; Limit 15 Registrants; \$5****Angel and Mariel Abreu (Nature is Awesome Birding Tours)**

Kids, want to go birding? Join Angel & Mariel Abreu for a fun-filled introduction to birding! This interactive workshop/field trip will focus on the basics of birding, identifying birds, and how to use and choose the right binoculars for kids. After our indoor workshop, we will venture outside where we will put your new birding skills to the test. Bring your field guide and binoculars if you have them, if not we will have binoculars available for loan. We hope to see you there!

Mom's Big Year**Jan. 26, 4:00pm-5:00pm****Nancy McAllister (Wildside Nature Tours)**

Join Nancy McAllister on her journey through a 'Mom's Big Year' of birding the U.S. Nancy traveled to hotspots from coast-to-coast to see as many birds as possible throughout 2016. She encountered beautiful birds and fascinating people along the way. A Big Year is no small feat for a mom managing all the duties that go along with three young children, a husband and two unexpected new jobs! Returning to her life-long passion for nature and travel proved to be both exhausting and exhilarating. Hear more about how Nancy juggled life, work, and family and used her birding adventures to heal, renew, and rediscover herself. Nancy's adventures are sure to inspire and her big year was much bigger than she ever expected! Come and hear about how fueling your passion for nature can change your life too! www.momsbigyear.com

Namibia**Jan. 27, 4:00pm-5:00pm****Jan. 28, 11:00am-12:00pm****and during Travel & Adventure Sunday****Jim Beckman (Cheepers! Birding on a Budget)**

An astonishing array of iconic African wildlife manages to eke out an existence against the odds in Namibia's arid ecosystems, including desert-adapted elephants, rhinos, lions, cheetah, and Oryx, all assisted by Namibia's progressive community-based approach to conservation. Namibia's combination of dramatic scenery, diverse wildlife and local culture, make it an up-and-coming wildlife-viewing destination. With ocean, deserts, salt pans, mountains, grassy plains, and rivers in addition to 630 plus bird species and 80 plus mammals, Namibia boasts a variety of super-scenic destinations for your viewing pleasure. Join us as Jim Beckman shares experiences from the Caprivi Strip, Etosha National Park, the Kalahari Desert, the coast around Walvis Bay and places in between.

Not Just Any Pigeon, the White-crowned Pigeon**Jan. 26, 1:00pm-2:00pm****By Gina Kent (Avian Research and Conservation Institute)****Satellite Tracking Studies in Florida and the Caribbean**

South Florida is home to Florida's favorite pigeon, the White-crowned Pigeon. This beautiful Tropical Hardwood Hammock species nests on remote mangrove islands and flies long distances to feed on fruiting

trees and shrubs on the mainland. Pigeons from all over the greater Caribbean region are thought to islands-hop in search of seasonally fruiting trees, but how much do they move between islands? In many places the White-crowned Pigeon is hunted (legally and illegally). Some Florida Pigeons migrate out of state and others stay in south Florida for the winter. What is the effect of hunting in the Bahamas on the migratory behavior of the Florida population? What happens to Florida breeding birds that over-winter in Florida? Come and learn about the life history and seasonal movements of Florida's fabulous pigeon!

Owls of North America**Jan. 27, 1:00pm-2:00pm****Sam Fried (Flights of Fancy Adventures, LLC)**

Undoubtedly the most mysterious and little seen family of birds in North America, the owls hold our fascination, as they have for thousands of years. Learn about all 19 species that inhabit our continent and listen to their eerie calls.

Panama's Wondrous Natural History**Jan. 25, 1:00pm-2:00pm****Jan. 28, 2:30pm-3:30pm****and during Travel & Adventure Sunday****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 1,004 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. From toucans to hummingbirds, mouse opossums 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 wondrous natural history!

Springs and the Heart of Florida**Jan. 27, 1:00pm-2:00pm****Rob Knight (Howard T. Odom Springs Institute)**

Florida is blessed with more than 1,000 artesian springs, the largest concentration of springs in the world. The Floridan Aquifer is the lifeblood of Florida and feeds the springs, which in turn, supply a significant source of flow in the state's premier rivers. Healthy rivers and the estuaries they nourish are home to abundant and diverse wildlife populations, many which depend on healthy aquatic habitat. While Florida has progressive environmental laws, they have not been adequately enforced to protect our unique springs and rivers. The Floridan Aquifer is being depleted and polluted due primarily to excessive groundwater pumping and fertilizers. These stresses cause impairment to the Floridan Aquifer and the connected springs, rivers, and estuaries, and the wildlife they support. The growing importance of nature-based tourism in Florida has the potential to help correct these harmful trends by state government and private interests.

The Communal Kite**Jan. 26, 2:30pm-3:30pm****Gina Kent (Avian Research and Conservation Institute)****How the Social Nature of the Swallow-tailed Kite is Imperative to its Survival**

Unlike many raptors, Swallow-tailed Kites are social throughout their annual cycle, in all aspects of their behavior. By nesting and roosting in neighborhoods, forming large pre-migratory communal roosts, and foraging in large aggregations, they assist each other in locating

things to do for the non-birder

Located just one hour from Orlando's famous theme parks, Florida's Space Coast offers many local alternatives for non-birders. We have a very active cultural community with numerous art galleries and four playhouses that offer a variety of theatrical performances. We recommend some Festival events as well. www.visitspacecoast.com www.artsbrevard.com

In and near Titusville

- Tour the North Brevard Historical Museum (downtown Titusville)
- Tour the U. S. Space Walk of Fame Monuments & Museum (downtown Titusville)
- Visit the quaint shops and art galleries in Downtown Titusville, and then have lunch in one of our great restaurants
- Visit the Titusville Fishing Pier and the Manatee Viewing Deck at Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge to look for manatees and dolphins
- Tour the American Police Hall of Fame & Museum
- Tour the Valiant Air Command Warbird Air Museum
- Tour the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex and take a bus tour
- Try an airboat trip - an exciting way to spend an afternoon or morning and not JUST for the birds
- Take a kayak trip - local tour companies are available to assist you
- Visit the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary
- Visit the Jungle Adventures attraction and Fort Christmas Historical Park in Christmas, FL
- Watch a rocket launch: at the time of printing, an Atlas V was scheduled for January 26

In Cocoa Beach

- Visit Ron Jon Surf Shop, The Dinosaur Store and Cocoa Beach Pier
- Take a pontoon boat or kayak tour of the Indian River Lagoon
- At Port Canaveral, visit the Exploration Tower, Jetty Park and waterfront restaurants

In Cocoa

- Cocoa Village is filled with unique shops, restaurants and art galleries

In Melbourne

- Tour the Liberty Bell Museum and visit the Eau Gallie Arts District and Downtown Melbourne for shopping, restaurants and art galleries
- Visit the Brevard Zoo - worth the short drive south on I-95

Family activities offered at the Festival include:

- Festival Exhibit Center and Art Show & Exhibit Fair
- Numerous wildlife and adventure travel classroom talks
- Saturday Scavenger Hunt - start at the Space Coast Audubon booth
- Intro to Birding: Young Birder's Edition*
- Barn Owl Pellet Dissection and Barn Owl Talk*
- Port Canaveral Boat Tour*
- Historic Sites of Canaveral National Seashore field trip*
- Historic Pritchard House Tour with docents in period dress*
- Wildflowers, Plants and Other Things of the North Brevard Area field trip*
- Visit the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary and Sams House for the Festival's listed activities there*

Depending on age, budding-birder kids may be happy being with dad or mom but may tire of the trail-trekking. The Festival has many events that are family-oriented and can be registered for together for convenience. Please check dates, times and availability as part of the registration process.

The last seven activities (*) require that you complete a Festival Registration and pay that fee and pay for the individual activities as space is limited. Single day registrations are available. There is no registration fee for children under 12 that are accompanied by an adult, however they still need to register and pay for events that have a limited number of attendees.

The Afternoon Socials in the Exhibit Center provide a great meeting place where you can enjoy a beverage and snack and meet new or old friends. Admission is by Festival Registration ID.

We are available by phone to discuss alternative preferences and suggested non-birder and family-oriented activities. Contact the Festival office at 321-268-5224.

ephemeral food sources, detecting predators, and synchronizing departures for their long, dangerous migratory flights. Learn just how important this distinctive sociality is to Swallow-tailed Kites, and how vital the undisturbed persistence of pre-migratory roost is to the survival of these amazing raptors.

There's an App for that!

Jan. 27, 2:30pm-3:30pm

David LaPuma (Executive Director: Cape May Bird Observatory)

As our phones get smarter and smarter, the tools available to birders also get better and better. Come check out the latest in apps for birders in this informative and fun presentation. What apps will help you find birds? What about keeping your list? Taking notes? Recording sound? Capture the best photo? David has been using apps for birding for over a decade now and would love to share his favorites with you.

They Do It All Night Long

Jan. 25, 2:30pm-3:30pm

Bill Stewart (American Birding Association)

Examining the facts, fiction and lore of bird migrations and other interesting stuff you didn't know birds could do: Did you know birds often migrate all night....and all day...for five, six, seven days in a row? How high do they fly? When and why do birds migrate? How do Broad-winged Hawks and other raptors find one another for that long migration flight? Do birds sleep on 'the wing'? Come find out the answers and learn so much more during this fact-filled and whimsical look into bird migration and other fascinating bird antics!

Treatment Wetlands = Cleaner Water, More Birds

Jan. 27, 2:30pm-3:30pm

Debra Segal (Wetlands Scientist) and Robert Knight (Howard T. Odum Springs Institute)

Target one of Florida's many constructed treatment wetlands for bird watching or nature photography and you are likely to see many exciting birds. This is because some of the best birding hotspots in Florida are man-made treatment wetlands that were designed to strip nutrients and pollutants from storm water and municipal wastewater. The use of treatment wetlands is a proven technology that cost-effectively cleanses nutrient-laden water. And one of the many ancillary benefits of treatment wetlands is their high biological productivity that translates into more birds. We will highlight nearby treatment wetlands (Viera, Orlando Wilderness Park, Blue Heron, Lake Apopka), well known treatment wetlands (Everglades STAs, Green Cay, Wakodahatchee), and the new kids on the block (Sweetwater Wetlands Park, Lake Hancock Outfall Wetland). Learn how these man-made features cleanse Florida's water bodies, attract birds, enhance environmental education, contribute to Florida's public use facilities, and generate ecotourism dollars.

Join Robert Knight and Debra Segal on field trips to Viera Wetlands (Jan. 26) or Blue Heron Water Treatment Facility (Jan 27) to see wetlands treatment facilities in action.

Where to Go Birding in Africa

Jan. 25 & 28, 2:30pm-3:30pm

and during Travel & Adventure Sunday

Ethan Kistler (Birding Africa)

New to birding in Africa and not sure where to start? Ready for your 2nd or even 5th trip? Find out where you should head next! Ethan will cover the basics on what to expect in each region, touching on a variety of topics including accommodation, target birds, mammals, difficulty, and more. From pelagic trips off Cape Town to pittas and gorillas in Uganda, you'll be packing your bags by the end of the talk!"

photography & digiscoping

During the Festival the sun will rise around 7:15am, so please be at your meet-up spots at the time indicated in the activity descriptions. Early meet-up is requested for sunrise to allow time to go over some basic instructions and be at the workshop locations as the golden hour approaches. Light is best starting ½ to ¾ hours before sunrise so you want to be there to capture it. Instructors will not wait for those who are late. The sun will set around 6:00pm. Though not required, car pools are recommended and will be set up at the meet-up spots. Bring water, snacks, sun protection, biting bug protection, wear warm clothes and waterproof shoes. Directions to meet-up spots will be included in the Festival program. The \$15 charge for the activities conducted by industry representatives is an administrative fee.

ROBERT AMORUSO

Robert Amoruso Photography

www.robertamorusophotography.com, 401-808-417, robert.amoruso@wildscapeimages.com

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

Digital Image Processing: Beginner to Intermediate

Jan. 25, 10:30am-12:00pm; \$35

Robert will cover basic to intermediate image workflow from editing your images, to post-processing, to final output. Image editing using BreezeBrowser Pro and Adobe Bridge; image conversion using Adobe Camera RAW (Developer Module in Lightroom), DXO Optics Pro and On1 Photo RAW; post-conversion processing in Photoshop using its built-in capabilities as well as Google NIK plugins, Topaz plugins and others will be covered. Learn about DXO and On1 offerings for image processing – both have capabilities exceeding those of Adobe. He will demonstrate editing your photo shoot, conversion of the RAW file, post-processing to yield the final result. We will cover creating a high-quality JPEG for uploading and emailing as well as a high-resolution file for printing on media. Computers are not required.

Merritt Island NWR Photo FWS

Jan. 25, 3:15pm-6:30pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Parrish Park boat ramp parking area.

Join local wildlife and nature photographer/Certified Florida Master Naturalist Robert Amoruso for an afternoon 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 also include Peacocks Pocket and/or Gator Creek Road if time allows or conditions warrant. Bring cameras, wide-angle lens, long 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 including optimizing sunset photography.

Orlando Wetlands Park Photo FWS

Jan. 26, 3:00pm-6:30pm; Limit 14 registrants; \$60

Meet at the OWP parking area.

Join local wildlife and nature photographer/Certified Florida Master Naturalist Robert Amoruso for an afternoon of in-depth field instruction at one of the area's best kept secrets for avian and wildlife photography. For 30 years the City closed the park during winter months for hunting until last year when it bought the rights from the former owners. These are the Festival's first winter photo workshops in the park where more than 220 bird species have been identified. Bring cameras, wide-angle lens, long telephoto lens and tripods. Instruction includes metering/exposure, composition, designing pleasing backgrounds, handling

equipment, shooting birds in flight and a host of other topics including optimizing sunset photography. We will be walking along the 2.5-mile birding loop trail.

Sunrise Seashore Landscape Photography Photo FWS

Jan. 25, 5:30am-9:00am; Limit 14 registrants; \$60

Meet at Parrish Park boat ramp parking area.

Join local wildlife and nature photographer/Certified Florida Master Naturalist, Robert Amoruso for a morning of in-depth field instruction photographing sunrise at the beautiful, unspoiled Canaveral National Seashore. 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. Email me at robert.amoruso@wildscapeimages.com to receive written instructions on camera settings and technique in advance of the workshop and links to images I have taken at this location. After sunrise we will go on a beach walk to investigate other flora, fauna and scenic photographic opportunities.

Sunrise Ocean Pier Photography at Cocoa Beach Pier

Jan. 26, 6:00am-9:00am; Limit 14 registrants; \$60

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

Join local wildlife and nature photographer/Certified Florida Master Naturalist Robert Amoruso for a morning of in-depth field instruction photographing the sunrise at the Cocoa Beach Pier. 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. Email me at robert.amoruso@wildscapeimages.com to receive written instructions on camera settings and technique in advance of the workshop and links to images I have taken of the pier and surrounding site. After sunrise we will go on a beach walk to investigate other flora, fauna and scenic photographic opportunities.

MARK BUCKLER

Mark Buckler Photography

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

Sponsored by Hunt's Photo and Video

Bird Photography at MINWR

Jan. 25, 3:00pm-6:30pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Jan. 26 & 27, 6:00am-9:30am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot.

Bird Photography at Orlando Wetlands Park

Jan. 25, 6:30am-10:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Jan. 29, 3:00pm-6:30pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Orlando Wetlands Park parking area.

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 and motion (or implied motion). Mark will emphasize the importance of awareness and prediction in the photographic process. You will learn how to effectively approach birds, focusing strategies, composition, exposure and much more while photographing the birds at two of this region's most outstanding sites. Merritt Island NWR, world-renowned for its exceptional opportunities for avian and wildlife photography, is celebrated for panoramic salt marsh vistas and the opportunity to photograph wildlife at very close distances. Closed to the public in winter for thirty years, Orlando Wetlands Park will be open this year. More than 220 bird species have been identified here in the marshes, hardwood hammocks and scenic lakes. Good numbers of wading birds and waterfowl are expected, alligators and turtles are likely and river otters, bobcats and white-tailed deer are possible.

Bird Photography "Potluck"

Jan. 30, 5:45am-10:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at parking lot of Titusville IHOP Restaurant, 3755 Cheney Hwy.

This is your chance to go on a spectacular bird photography adventure. After spending a week at the festival, I will know where the best birds are hanging out and we will spend the morning visiting some of these places that offer the most interesting photographic opportunities. Who knows where we will end up to photograph some amazing Florida birds? You can be sure that we will have a great time at some of the best locations.

Creating Spectacular Coastal Landscape Photos

Jan. 27, 10:30am-12:00pm; \$35

Jan. 29, 10:15am-12:45am; \$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.

Finalize Your Vision: Process & Organize Photos

Jan. 26 & 28; 10:30am-12:00pm; \$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.

Photographing the Night Sky

Jan. 28, 5:30pm-8:30pm, Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot.

Both birds and humans use the night sky to navigate and digital photography has made night sky photography accessible to photographers of all skill levels. Learn how easy it is to create spectacular images of the night sky and Milky Way with your camera. Don't miss this unique opportunity to photograph in the longest stretch of dark sky on Florida's east coast, compliments of NASA and the Merritt Island NWR. The only man-made illumination seen here is far away lights on the Kennedy Space Center launch pads. You will need a DSLR, a wide angle lens of a minimum aperture of f/2.8 (f/4 may be acceptable if you have a DSLR with good high-ISO capability) and a tripod.

VINNY & ANNETTE COLUCCI

Escape to Nature Photography Workshops

www.escapetonaturephotography.com, vinny@vinnycolucci.com, 252-349-1121

ABC's of Wildlife & Bird Photography

Jan. 29, 12:45pm-2:15pm; \$35

Want to know how to get those magazine quality images? You don't need to be a wildlife pro. Join us for a detailed, easy to follow seminar on how to get the best images of wildlife and birds in flight. We will cover your basic camera setup for this type photography. We will also cover which aperture setting and shutter speeds to use for the best results. Basic histogram readings will be reviewed so you will understand when you have the correct exposure. JPEG vs. Raw and white balance will also be discussed. Knowing your camera and these settings are key to capturing great images. We will also take a quick look at post processing of images we capture.

Birds in Flight Photography at MINWR

Jan. 25, 6:00am-9:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Jan. 27, 3:00pm-6:30pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot.

We will explore Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge's Black Point Drive for birds and other wildlife subjects. You will learn about shooting with longer lens both off a tripod as well as handholding. We will also look for active wading bird areas. Proper tripod techniques with long and short lens will be reviewed. Getting sharp images of subjects in flight and on the ground will be our target. Flash photography and the use of the Better Beamer for flash will be demonstrated. Equipment: long lens up to 600mm, wide-angle lens (14-70mm), flash unit, Better Beamer if you have one and a tripod with head. Bring a gimbal head if you have one, (We will have a Wimberley gimbal to try out), polarizing filters and ND Grad filter for sunrise or sunset images.

Birding, Wildlife & Sunset at Viera Wetlands

Jan. 25, 3:00pm-6:30pm; Limit 14 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Viera Wetlands parking area.

We will learn how to capture those birds in flight. Techniques and camera settings will be demonstrated and taught while on location. Long lens techniques will be reviewed as well as in the field flash photography. Have a Better Beamer? We will show you how to get the most out of this simple way to amplify light from your flash while photographing birds and wildlife. With some luck we may even get a few gator images. We will finish the day with a sunset over the wetlands. Equipment: long telephoto lens up to 600mm, 24-70 lenses for sunset, polarizing filter, ND Grad filter, (We have some to loan out), Flash and Better Beamer if you have one. Bring a tripod with a ball head and a gimbal head for larger lens if you have one. We will have a Wimberley head for you to test if you haven't tried a gimbal prior.

Birding, Wildlife & Sunset/Sunrise at OWP

Jan. 28, 6:30am-10:00am; Limit 14 Registrants; \$60

Jan. 28, 3:00pm-6:30pm; Limit 14 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Orlando Wetlands Park parking area.

Vinny Colucci has worked at OWP many times over the years. He knows this park well and will put you in positions to get the most out of your adventure. He will teach you long lens techniques for use with both tripod gimbals and hand held photography. You will learn how to get those birds in flight as well as portrait shots of subjects on the ground. From wide landscapes to intimate locations, this park's ecosystem has variations like no other. It is a Mini-Everglades with photo opportunities around every corner.

Equipment: long telephoto lens up to 600mm and more, wide-angle lens (14-70 mm range), macro lens, (You never know what we will find), polarizing filter, ND Grad filters (We have a few to loan), tripod and a gimbal head if you have one. (We have a Wimberley Gimbal setup to loan). Bring a flash and a Better Beamer if you own one.

Sunrise & Macro Photography at Cocoa Beach

Jan. 29, 6:00am-9:00am; Limit 14 Registrants; \$60

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

We will photograph sunrise and early morning light at Cocoa Beach Pier, anchoring the sunrise and morning light with the Pier and on-coming waves. We will teach filter techniques as well as composition. The use of slower shutter speeds to show motion and freeze action will give us a different perspective on our scene. Afterwards we will use these techniques with close-up photographs of seashells, starfish and other macro type subjects. Recommended equipment: camera, shutter release, wide angle to short telephoto lenses, macro or close up lenses, tripod, polarizing, ND Grad and ND filters will be of help. (We have some filters to loan.)

Flash Photography for Wildlife

Jan. 25, 10:30am-12:00pm; \$35

This is a classroom seminar on flash photography. This class is specifically for the wildlife and birding photographer who wants to know how to balance his flash's light with the ambient light outdoors. From manual to TTL and the newer intelligent TTL you will see how you can set your flash to give you natural looking non-flash images. This is a class that is good no matter who is the manufacturer of your camera gear. Want to know what a Better Beamer is? This simple add on to your flash unit will increase the range of your flash with a simple \$40 attachment.

Four Keys for Making Great Images

Jan. 26; 10:30am-12:00pm; \$35

Whether your equipment is the simplest point & shoot camera or the highest end digital pro camera, every image needs these four elements to have a great image.

Award winning and published wildlife and nature photographer, Vinny Colucci will show you these four elements and how they build on each other to create that magazine cover image. The principals involved work at any level and with any photographic equipment. Vinny will share his stories in the field as well as the equipment he uses to capture those stunning images. Lastly, Vinny will share a magic truth to having many great images in your portfolio.

Kathryn Dow

www.kathryndow.photoshelter.com, Knazz815@gmail.com, 978-837-0296

Sponsored by Hunt's Photo and Video

Afternoon Avian Adventure and Sunset Silhouettes

Jan. 26, 27 & 28, 2:30pm-6:30pm; Limit 14 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Viera Wetlands parking area.

Join me for a productive afternoon photographing an active area of birds. I will guide you through these beautiful wetlands from finding our subjects in their habitat to creating that desired image. How to capture the action with correct exposure, focus point selection and composition will be covered as well as how to photograph your subjects at the correct angle for clean backgrounds. I will discuss histograms, bird behavior, habitat and demonstrate live view shooting for sunset. We will create appealing silhouettes to close out the evening. Please bring a wide angle lens, strongest telephoto lens, camera body, tripod, fully charged batteries and memory. There will be minimal walking throughout the Ritch Grissom Memorial Wetlands.

Better Bird Photography

Jan. 28, 10:30am-12:00pm; \$35

A classroom exploration on bird photography will cover field shooting techniques, camera settings and processing for achieving that desired image. It all starts with finding your subject and the right approach. Reading the light and how it falls on your subject, staying with your subject and capturing the moment they give you are all critical. Patience is key. We will study shooting angles, composition, focus point selection, processing with Photoshop and more.

Everything Owls

Jan. 27, 10:30am-12:00pm; \$35

Jan. 29, 12:45pm-2:15pm; \$35

A classroom exploration on owls will show you how to find these elusive beauties and study their habitat. How to approach them and photograph naturally with no flash using manual settings will be explained. I will live edit a few raw files to show you how to process these natural images. Please bring a few of your own owl images to study during our story sharing segment. We will end with a presentation on my owl adventures.

Sunrise Birding & Photography FWS: MINWR

Jan. 25 & 30, 6:00am-10:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot.

Join me for a productive morning exploring the beauty of Merritt Island. I will help you capture the action with correct exposure, focus point selection and composition. Learn to photograph your subjects at the correct angle for clean backgrounds. We will study histograms, bird behavior and habitat. Please bring a wide angle lens, strongest telephoto lens, camera body, tripod, fully charged batteries and memory.

Sunrise Birding Photo Trek

Jan. 26 & 29, 6:30am-10:30am; Limit 14 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Orlando Wetlands Park parking area.

Join me for a productive morning exploring the wetlands. I will help you capture the action with correct exposure, focus point selection and composition and help you to understand histograms. You will be learning to recognize light and how it falls on your subject, when to snap your image and how to hold your position for that connection shot. We will discuss bird behavior, habitat and how the right approach is key to capturing the essence of natural behavior in your images. Please bring a wide angle lens, strongest telephoto lens, camera body, tripod, fully charged batteries and memory. There will be moderate walking through a portion of the birding loop at Orlando Wetlands Park.

KEN HUBBARD

Field Services Manager, Tamron USA, Inc.

516-314-3342, www.kenhubbardphotography.com, www.tamron-usa.com

From Birds to Butterflies: Capturing Great Images

Jan. 26, 1:00pm-2:30pm; \$15

Join Ken Hubbard as he presents this informative and fun seminar on capturing great nature images! Whether you enjoy photographing small bugs and butterflies, larger mammals such as whales, or even birds in flight, this seminar is for you. Ken will go over many techniques that will help you capture the images you want, plus he will also cover subjects such as camera settings, composition and looking for that good light.

Capturing Birds and Wildlife in their Habitat

Jan. 27, 3:30pm-6:00pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$15

Jan. 28, 6:15am-9:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$15

Meet at Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot.

Take all you know and have learned about wildlife photography into the field to capture some amazing images. Whether it is a bird in flight hovering over its prey or wading in the flats during early morning light, Join Ken Hubbard as he searches for some great images. From correct camera setting to good composition, Ken will also be giving hands on instruction and guidance to help you capture the images you are looking for.

STEPHEN INGRAHAM

Point & Shoot Nature Photographer, Lightshedder

psnp.lightshedder.com, 207-423-2038, lightshedder@gmail.com

Advanced & Specialized P&S Nature Photography

Jan. 28, 8:00am-10:00am; Limit 10 Registrants; \$15

Meet at Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center.

There is way more to your Point and Shoot 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 P&S Nature Photography

Jan. 27, 1:30pm-3:30pm; Limit 10 Registrants; \$15

Meet at 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 P&S Nature Photography: Bird and Wildlife, Macro and Landscape

Jan. 27, 10:30am-12:00pm; \$15

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.

P&S Nature Photography FWS: Viera Wetlands

Jan. 29, 8:00am-12:00pm; Limit 14 Registrants; \$20

Meet at Viera Wetlands parking area.

This is 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.

Post Processing for P&S Nature Photography: Lightroom & Snapseed

Jan. 28, 3:00pm-4:30pm; \$15

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 an 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 T. KARLSON

Kevin T. Karlson Bird and Nature Photography

kevintkarlson.com, 609-425-9060, karlson3@comcast.net

Advanced Photography Indoor Workshop: Flight and Action Techniques; Light Awareness; Manual Exposure basics; Composition; Anticipating Action

Jan. 27, 3:00pm-4:30pm; \$35

Digital photography is advancing greatly every year, which allows us to fine tune our technique and camera settings to levels never thought possible. This workshop covers a number of techniques and lighting principles that take our photography to new levels of proficiency and creative interest. Flight and action techniques and exposure compensation on the fly using manual exposure are covered, as well as basic and advanced light awareness, proper exposure and camera settings for different field conditions, synchronous panning basics, and compositional basics of balance and creative cropping. Quick compensation for light or dark subjects is explained for manual mode or aperture priority mode, with advantages of one approach explained. Proper balance for wildlife, macro or landscapes images are discussed, with examples of correct and incorrect composition shown. Basic camera functions will not be discussed in this workshop. 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. 28, 7:00am-11:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot.

This interactive workshop takes information from Kevin's indoor workshop and puts it to use in field situations. Kevin explains the principles 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. Kevin also explains awareness of lighting and how to use it in field situations, including how to compensate quickly for white or dark subjects. Creative light exposures for a variety of situations are also covered, with manual exposure or compensation in aperture priority mode explained. Finally, basic compositional rules and photographic balance will be shared, although the classroom workshop better illustrates the crucial principles. Each participant gets individual attention, so if you want to take your wildlife photography to the next level, this is a good workshop for you.

Shooting Outside the Box: Taking Your Creative Photo Skills to the Next Level – A Special Interactive Workshop

Jan. 28, 1:00pm-2:30pm; \$35

Are you curious about what separates special photos from all others in a judge's mind? In today's world, it takes a unique photo to stand out in a crowd. In the first half hour, Kevin shares his experience as a judge and what makes a photo stand out, and then offers some tips that should be followed if your images are to move to the next level of proficiency. The rest of the program is spent viewing images from the participants and discussing with the audience what could be done to make it a better photo (bring 3 jpeg images on a thumb drive). Kevin emphasizes the value of each photographer's artistic vision while still maintaining basic compositional requirements. This workshop strives to promote more creativity in nature and wildlife photography. Don't miss this special event. Only the first 20 participants can bring jpegs to show, so don't wait.

JANIS PAUSHTER

janispaushterphotography.com, photosbyjanis@gmail.com, 352-286-4870

A Beginners' Introduction to Lightroom 6

Jan. 28; 1:00pm-2:30pm; \$35

This seminar was developed to help novice Lightroom users. Lightroom is the 'go to' program for today's photographers. Its structure allows users to create their own organizational system for easy access to their photographs, key wording, and rating of their photographs. Lightroom provides a terrific editing program and a way to export and print photographs. By the end of the class, participants will have an understanding of both the Library and Develop Modules of Lightroom. They'll learn ways to easily import photographs into Lightroom, organize their photographs coherently, create a collection of their best photographs and edit their images. Janis will share her favorite 'plug-ins' and websites as well as a list of 'shortcuts'. Handouts will be provided. Participants with Lightroom on their laptops are encouraged to bring them. Contact Janis if your group would like a 90-minute to full-day Lightroom presentation.

JOEL REYNOLDS

Space Coast Wildlife Photographer

joelr@cfl.rr.com

Photo Trip to Brevard County Landfill

Jan. 26 & 27, 8:00am-11:30am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$20

Meet at parking lot of Titusville IHOP Restaurant, 3755 Cheney Hwy.

Note: The Brevard Landfill is NOT open to the public. Please do not come here on your own.

Have you ever thought of touring a landfill? Me neither, until I received an email from a lady who said: "You don't know me, but I know you and I get images you send out by email. If you give me an hour I can show you my landfill, and you will never think of it the same again." I was hooked! I love taking nature and wildlife pictures all over Brevard County so I said, I can do this. Man, I have never seen so many birds in one place! We will meet Environmental Scientist, Rita Penini at the facility. She will give a short description about today's landfills. She will provide a safety briefing, have us sign Limits of Liability, assign safety vests and then drive us around the facility in their van to search for wildlife. We will stop frequently for better observation and photography. The \$20 charge is an administrative fee.

JOHN SLONINA

Slonina Photography

www.sphotography.com, (508) 736-1167, jtslonina@aol.com

Sponsored by Hunt's Photo + Video

Best of MINWR Bird Photography

Jan. 28, 6:00am-10:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot.

We will start before the sun comes up photographing silhouettes of birds in flight while leaving their rookeries with the rising sun as your backdrop. We will photograph birds throughout the morning with the light coming in from several directions. You will learn to create more dramatic 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 will be covered. Learn how to get closer to your subjects and interpret behavior so that you can anticipate action. All skill levels are welcome. John Slonina is a professional nature photographer and tour leader. He also has a photo tour company which leads photo workshop across North America. His work is published in multiple calendars, books, and magazines and in several galleries.

MINWR Wildlife, Landscape & Night Photo

Jan. 26 & 28, 2:30pm-6:30pm; Limit 12 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot.

Join professional nature photographer and tour leader, John Slonina for an incredible afternoon. We will start by photographing birds at the most recently active locations on the island. Later we will photograph bird and landscape silhouettes with mangroves and the setting sun as your backdrop. After sunset, we will photograph the blue hour with a boat dock and a lighted bridge in the background. John will show various strategies for night photography. You will learn to create dramatic images. John will go over shooting birds in flight, getting the exposure correct. Backlighting, front lighting, focusing, using depth of field, composition, increasing drama, critical sharpness, equipment, night photography and other techniques. All skill levels are welcome.

Fundamentals of Landscape Photography

Jan. 26, 10:30am-12:00pm; \$35

Do you love the idea of grabbing your camera and heading out to beautiful locations? All too often photographer's visual experiences in the majestic outdoors are not reflected in the pictures they make. In this class John will cover camera settings and how to get tack sharp photos that are composed for impact. How do you take advantage of different weather and lighting conditions? What do you do if the weather doesn't cooperate? What filters and accessories should you have in your camera bag? Find out how to get easy quick correct exposures, how to minimize contrast between a dark foreground and a bright sky and what equipment to buy or avoid. John will also cover the Milky Way and night photography. You will leave this presentation inspired and ready to try new strategies and use the tips you learned for creating more dramatic, high-impact images. All skill levels are welcome.

Fundamentals of Wildlife Photography

Jan. 29, 10:15am-11:45am; \$35

Drawing lessons from his 20 years of observing and photographing wildlife, John will present practical tips that will increase your chances of capturing that "shot of a lifetime". We will explore what makes a compelling and emotionally engaging photograph. You will learn new strategies and tips for getting closer to wildlife and creating more dramatic, high-impact images. John will discuss the complex process behind his breathtaking wildlife photographs. You'll learn what it takes

to be a great wildlife photographer and how to capture wildlife in a natural environment. You will get 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 get sharp photos and how to photograph birds in flight. John will present numerous photo techniques while entertaining participants and illustrating his points with humor and stories from his adventures. All skill levels are welcome.

Lightroom: Develop Module

Jan. 25, 10:30am-12:00pm; \$35

Lightroom is the go to program for photographers. This presentation will cover the develop module and how to make your photos look great. We will discuss why and when to use RAW and how to convert it. Learn about batch processing, making localized corrections, reducing noise and sharpening, correcting lens distortion, white balance, history panel, graduated and radial filters, and fixing crooked horizons. John will show how to minimize contrast between a dark foreground and a bright sky. Speaker's notes will be available to the participants of this class.

Lightroom: Library Module

Jan. 27, 1:00pm-2:30pm; \$35

This presentation will be an overview of Adobe Lightroom's Library Module. Lightroom is the go to program for photographers. We will cover 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. You will learn how to import photos into your catalog, manage folders, and identify favorite photos. We will discuss editing, sorting, importing, catalogs, collections, keywords, rating, etc. A consistent workflow is key to keeping your photos organized in Lightroom. I will help you develop a workflow that is right for you. Speaker's notes will be available to the participants of this class.

Orlando Wetlands Wildlife Photography

Jan. 25, 2:30pm-6:30pm; Limit 14 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Orlando Wetlands Park parking area.

Join us for a walking photo tour as we explore Orlando Wetlands Park by foot. We will walk some of the trails that meander through marshes, hardwood hammocks and along scenic lakes. This is a great location for photographing wildlife. It is a habitat for birds, alligators, turtles, bobcats, river otters, white tailed deer and several other species. Wading birds and waterfowl are abundant in winter. 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 will be covered. We will also discuss wildlife behavior. All skill levels are welcome.

Photographing Birds of Viera Wetlands

Jan. 27, 6:30am-10:30am; Limit 14 Registrants; \$60

Jan. 29, 2:30pm-6:30pm; Limit 14 Registrants; \$60

Meet at Viera Wetlands parking area.

We will start at dawn with sunrise silhouettes of wildlife and landscapes. We will photograph various birds and other wildlife such as river otters and alligators. John will go over shooting birds in flight, getting the exposure correct every time, reading histograms, backlighting, front lighting, focusing, using depth of field and composition to control foreground and background, increasing drama, critical sharpness, equipment and several other techniques. Learn how to get closer to your subjects and interpret behavior so that you can anticipate action. You will learn to create more dramatic and high-impact images. All skill levels are welcome.

ROY THOMAN

Roy Thoman Photography

<http://roythoman.wordpress.com>, robroyphotography@cfl.rr.com

Nighttime Photography at Max Brewer Bridge

Jan. 27, 5:15pm-8:00pm; Limit 12 registrants; \$60

Meet at Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot.

Come take a walk on the dark side with local photographer Roy Thoman and explore the wonderful world of Nighttime Photography. This is 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. With a beautifully lit bridge and 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.

Take Your Camera off Auto!

Jan. 25, 1:00pm-2:30pm; \$35

Jan. 28, 10:30am-12:00pm; \$35

This is a classroom discussion designed to take you beyond AUTO mode! You will learn to take advantage of more of the functions and capabilities of your camera. Using other modes: shutter priority, aperture priority, and manual can take your photography to a new level. Your camera is a great tool; you should take advantage of it for whatever type of photography you plan to do. In this class, we will talk about what the different modes are and why and when to use them. We will talk a lot about the relationship between aperture, depth of field, and shutter speeds. Bring your camera (any type capable of manual settings) and your camera manual, if you have it. This class is for beginning and intermediate photographers. There is also a photo walk companion workshop to this class if you want to use what we learned in this classroom out in the field.

Take your Camera off Auto! Photo Walk

Jan 25 & 28, 3:30pm-6:00pm; Limit 12 registrants; \$60

Meet at 3:30pm at Sandpoint Park in the large pavilion along the river north of the Coast Guard Auxiliary building. Park address: 101 North Washington Ave., Titusville, FL 32796

This is a photo walk workshop about learning to use the other modes of your camera. You will learn to take advantage of more of the functions and capabilities of your camera. Using other modes: shutter priority, aperture priority and manual can take your photography to a new level. I hope to take you out of your comfort zone using a camera mode that you don't normally use. I want to give you the confidence to use an unfamiliar mode on your own. Bring your camera (any type capable of manual settings), wide-angle to moderate telephoto lens and your camera manual, if you have it. This class is for beginning and intermediate photographers. There is a companion classroom discussion to this workshop that I recommend you take before attending this photo walk.

SHIV VERMA

Panasonic Lumix Luminary Team

www.shivverma.com, 617-759-0010 sv@shivverma.com, www.panasonic.com

Photowalks with Shiv Verma

Jan. 25, 26 & 27, 7:00am-10:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$15

Jan. 28, 6:30am-9:30am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$15

Meet at Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot.

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 equipment, mirrorless cameras and light zoom lenses? If these are of interest, then bring your camera and lenses and join me on one of my photo walks. I will help you get great images, in-flight shots and action shots so you can take your photography to the next level. Photographers of all experience levels are welcome. Your equipment can be a DSLR, point and shoot camera or fixed or interchangeable lens camera. Best of all, I will have lots of loaner Panasonic Lumix cameras and lenses, including a powerful scope, for you to try.

Macro/Close-up & Image Stacking Photography

Jan. 27, 3:00pm-4:30pm; \$15

Macro photography lets you explore and create exciting photographs of a whole new and intimate world - zeroing-in to create an interesting abstract or just filling the frame with a tiny flower, insect or a jewel.

This program will address the challenges you'll face with macro photography and the methods and tools used to overcome those challenges. We will deal with the lighting and equipment, as well as several techniques to get better images. This includes selecting the appropriate equipment, lighting and stacking.

You will understand the importance of depth-of-field as it affects macro photos. You will learn how to create high magnification images using macro lenses, tubes and diopters. In addition, you will learn how to create one completely focused image from several partially focused images. This focus stacking technique is ideal for macro-photography as well as landscape photography when sharpness of the entire scene is important.

Mirrorless Cameras for Bird Photography

Jan. 25, 3:00pm-4:30pm; \$15

The camera technology of the last several years has made bird and birds in flight photography easier than it was before. New DSLR Cameras have made action photography much easier than it was when manual focus was the rule rather than the exception. Now Mirrorless cameras have entered the realm of nature, wildlife and action photography. This program will address the various features of Mirrorless Cameras and how to set them up to obtain images that are at par with the best of DSLR's. You will learn how to obtain tack sharp images, exposure; auto focus modes; manual focus; flight shot techniques - hand held and using a tripod with an appropriate lens mount; panning techniques and much more. In addition, the program will cover: light quality and quantity, direction, side and backlighting.

CLAY TAYLOR

Swarovski Optik Naturalist Market Manager

www.swarovskioptik.com

Digiscoping with a Cell Phone

Jan. 27, 1:00pm-2:30pm; \$15

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. The \$10 charge is an administrative fee.

Digiscoping with Digital SLR Cameras

Jan. 26, 3:00pm-4:30pm; \$15

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. 26 & 28, 8:00am-11:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$15

Meet at Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot.

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.

Super Telephoto with a Scope: >1000mm

Jan. 28, 3:00pm-4:30pm; \$15

Can a Swarovski Optik 900mm - 2100mm Telephoto Lens System possibly give you photographic image quality that rivals the performance of Super Telephoto lenses by Canon, Nikon, Sigma and Tamron? The short answer is "Yes!", but you will need to see for yourself.

We will cover the pros and cons of using a spotting scope with your DSLR (Traditional or Mirrorless) for shooting stills and videos of birds, animals, sports, etc. Bring your camera, favorite tele lens, and an open mind. Following a classroom session, we will be able to do comparison shots in the park behind the college for you to review later.

ROBERT WILSON

Robert Wilson Photography

photographyworldblog.com

Sponsored by Kowa

Digiscoping With Robert Wilson

Jan. 25 & 27, 8:00am-11:00am; Limit 12 Registrants; \$15

Meet at Parrish Park boat ramp parking lot.

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, including digiscoping with your cell phone.

Brevard Nature Alliance
P. O. Box 1972
Cape Canaveral , FL 32920

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