



Colonial Photo & Hobby Showcases Photos

Congratulations to 14 photographers whose images entered in Orange Audubon Society's 2015 Chertok Florida Native Nature Photography Contest were selected for displays at Colonial Photo & Hobby, 634 N. Mills Avenue, Orlando, FL. From all eligible entries store staff made "blind" selections—without knowledge of who took the photographs or whether they placed in the contest.

Displays to be installed around press time include 2015 entries from the Advanced Category: *A Face Only A Mother Could Love* (Honorable Mention) by **Alan T. Dart**; *Tranquility - Blue Springs* by **James Kochanowski**; *For Your Eyes Only - Regal Jumping Spider* and *Does He Bite? - Florida Harvester Ant* by **Steven Long**; *Alligator Eye Shine* (First Place) by **Larry Lynch**; *Landing with Grace - Great Blue Heron* by **Joaquin Paredes**; *Mourning Dove* by **Margie Sloane**; and *Aerial Drama - Two Roseate Spoonbills* and *American Oystercatcher with Mangrove* by **Bobby Van Mierop**.

Continued on p.8



For Your Eyes Only - Regal Jumping Spider. 2015 Chertok Photo Contest entry to be displayed at Colonial Photo and Hobby. Photo: Steven Long

This Month's Program: June 16, 2016

Annual Chertok Nature Photography Contest Awards Program, Party & Silent Auction

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) will celebrate the end of its season with an exclusive showing of eligible entries in the 2016 (28th Annual) Kit and Sidney Chertok Florida Native Nature Photography Contest. The program provides a virtual criss-crossing tour of Florida, with beautiful images taken from east to west coasts and from the Panhandle to the Everglades.

OAS will furnish substantial finger foods so you don't need to worry about dinner before the program. Just arrive at 6:00 p.m. with an appetite for delicious food and beautiful photography. Your small donation (\$5 suggested) to help defray costs of the event will be sincerely appreciated. And please bring your wallet for the Silent Auction, which has become a tradition for this end-of-season event.

By 7:00 p.m. the Chertok show will begin and the suspense will mount ... who will win the contest in the Youth, Novice and Advanced Amateur/Professional categories? At the program's conclusion winners will be announced and over \$1,200 in ribbons, cash and other prizes will be awarded. At the same time there will be heightened anticipation from friendly competition for dozens of Silent Auction donations from local restaurants, native nurseries, camera and outdoor retail outfitters, resorts, area theme parks, our fantastic members and more (see p.6 and 7 for a listing of donated items as of press time).

Jackie Masterski, incoming OAS Board member, uses the annual Silent Auction each year as a way to donate to OAS while doing her holiday and birthday gift shopping. As you peruse the excellent items, you will see Jackie's bids wherever no one else is bidding. "I generally can't let stuff that doesn't get any bids languish," she says. Can you do likewise and contribute to OAS' fund raising through our Silent Auction? Proceeds from this program will benefit a future OAS nature center and/or related conservation and nature education projects. A large number of volunteers will make the check-out lines painless, especially if you bring check and cash. Credit cards are accepted but a little slower to process!



Cormorant Profile, Second Place, 2011 Chertok Photo Contest. Photo: Marina Scarr

Orange Audubon Society programs are free and no reservations are necessary.

Programs are the 3rd Thursday of each month (September-June) and all except the June program start at 7:00 p.m. in the Camellia Room at

Harry P. Leu Gardens

1920 North Forest Ave., Orlando, FL 32803

For map and directions, visit:

www.leugardens.org/plan/directions/



Mark the date and don't forget to bring an appetite for good food and camaraderie, your wallet for the Silent Auction, and your best party attitude. This is OAS' 50th year and the 28th year of this wonderful photo contest. Let's make a fuss over us!

*Teresa Williams,
Chertok Photo Contest Chair*



Summer Conservation Efforts

The June 16th program is the final Orange Audubon Society (OAS) activity for the 2015-2016 season. The OAS Board will be finalizing activities for the upcoming year at our Summer Board Planning Meeting on July 24th, 9 a.m.—4 p.m. at the University of Florida Mid-Florida Research and Education Center, 2725 S. Binion Rd., Apopka, FL 32703.

Thanks to all who participated in OAS programs, who volunteered, and/or donated. A special thanks goes to Danielle Ponsolle, now going off the OAS board, who served many years as Publicity Chair and made sure our programs were listed in the *Orlando Sentinel*.

If you have ideas for programs or any other suggestions, please contact incoming President Rick Baird at rbaird4@att.net. Remember that OAS is run entirely by volunteers. If you wish to contribute as a volunteer next year, please let us know.

Helping with conservation efforts is always OAS' biggest need. Let us know if you can be called upon to write letters as part of the OAS Central Florida Conservation Network. The following articles include some easy to take actions that can help.

Deborah Green, President

Not Easter Island!

Higher waves caused by a warming planet are chipping away at platforms that have supported some of the famous statues on Easter Island for more than 500 years, according to a [United Nations report on cultural heritage sites and climate change](#). As another example of how real climate change is, when Superstorm Sandy hit the East Coast in October 2012, three-quarters of Ellis Island flooded, causing more than \$77 million dollars in damage. Miami Beach experiences saltwater flooding every fall with its "king tide," and on a lesser scale influxes of saltwater into its storm drains on a monthly basis.

With 314 bird species identified as being impacted by Climate Change, National Audubon Society supports all initiatives related to clean energy education and action. You will recall that



Blue-winged Teal. 2015 Chertok Photo Contest entry to be displayed at Colonial Photo and Hobby. Photo: Mason Theurer

OAS worked with the City of Winter Park to implement energy efficiency retrofits for 40 low-income residents of West Winter Park and 8 churches. Most of these retrofits, funded by a Toyota TogetherGreen by Audubon grant last year, were completed in November, and we are waiting until this coming November to compare electric bills in the same month. We are optimistic that we will be able to show dramatic benefits of these energy efficiency measures like insulation and duct repair. More on climate issues on p.3.

Help Albatrosses and Petrels

Albatrosses and petrels are some of the most endangered birds on the planet. Spending most of their lives on the open ocean, they too often become hooked on fishing lines and drown. The Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) coordinates and advances protections for these birds, but the United States has yet to sign on. Legislation now being introduced would enable the U.S. to join this treaty. OAS has joined other chapters in the Atlantic Flyway in signing on to a letter in support of this legislation. National Audubon's Action Center has an [easy to fill in letter](#) to our legislators if you want to write as well.

Support Bird-friendly Buildings

Collisions with buildings kill millions of birds each year. The Federal Bird-Safe Buildings Act is a new bipartisan bill to help birds avoid these collisions. It promotes bird-friendly materials and design features at federal buildings.

OAS has joined other chapters in the Atlantic Flyway in signing on to a letter in support of this legislation. National Audubon's Action Center has an [easy to fill in letter](#) to our legislators if you want to write as well.



The purpose and dedication of Orange Audubon Society (OAS) is to promote public understanding of, and an interest in, wildlife and the environment that supports it.

OAS' education programs foster the recognition of the tangible and intangible values in the remaining natural areas of Florida and the world, and our responsibility for the conservation of the Earth's natural ecosystems and the services that they provide for the health of the planet.

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The OASis (Orange Audubon Society information source) newsletter is published monthly from September through June. The newsletter is posted on the OAS website, and a link is e-mailed to all OAS members.

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Respect Growth Boundaries

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) has joined the League of Women Voters, the Sierra Club, the 1000 Friends of Florida, the *Orlando Sentinel* Editorial Board, and countless residents in requesting that the current rural zoning for Orange County east of the Econlockhatchee River be followed. OAS has written to the Orange County Board of County Commissioners respectfully requesting that they reject the Lake Pickett South and Lake Pickett North Plan Amendments, which would add tens of thousands of new homes and adversely affect wildlife corridors. OAS members, particularly those who will be impacted by this growth, are encouraged to write also and/or attend the June 14, 2016 Commission meeting.

Silver Springs Buffer Protected

This past December, 4900 acres of aquifer recharge and wildlife habitat were brought into public ownership north of Silver Springs in Marion County. Called the Silver Springs Forest Conservation Area, this property managed by the St. Johns River Water Management District (District) already has hiking and equestrian trails that connect the Indian Lake State Forest with the Cross Florida Greenway.

The \$11.5 million purchase from international lumber company Rayonier Corporation was facilitated by the non-profit Conservation Trust for Florida, based in Gainesville. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Forestry Service's Forest Legacy Program contributed \$3 million, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection kicked in \$2 million, and the District paid most of the balance. When the deal was about to fall apart due to a funding gap between the seller's price and agency funds available for purchase, Conservation Trust for Florida asked its members for donations and came up with the remaining \$488,000.

Making the conservation land open to the public by way of trails and providing parking helps people connect with nature and Florida's natural resources rather than keeping the land solely a groundwater recharge area. For trail maps and more information on this property, see [this link](#).



Moving Solar Forward

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) continues to collect petitions for the Solar Choice amendment, which would remove some barriers to the progress of solar in Florida. Enough signatures were not gathered to qualify for the November 2016 ballot but the Solar Choice Coalition is working toward placement on the 2018 ballot. Petitions are valid for 24 months from the date of signing. The utility-backed opposing amendment, Smart Solar, did secure enough signatures to be on the November 2016 ballot. See December 2015 *OASis* for a comparison of the two amendments or visit the [Floridians for Solar Choice website](#).

Meanwhile on the August Primary Ballot will be Amendment 4, intended to remove a barrier to solar by exempting the panels and other solar equipment from the real property tax and the onerous tangible property tax. OAS encourages you to research this amendment for yourself and join the League of Women Voters, Sierra Club, and other groups in voting [Yes on 4](#).

Community Power Network Seeks Program Director

The Central Florida Solar Advocates group is a local, grass roots effort to lower solar installation costs through a bulk purchase process. Eighty homeowners, including some OAS members, became part of the first Solar Co-ops in Central Florida, which were organized with assistance from the Community Power Network, a Washington, D.C. non-profit. In order to expand this effort to other parts of the state, a full-time [FL SUN](#) Program Director is being sought. To find out more, see [this link](#).

Requesting Carbon Tax

By Desta Horner, Group Leader for Citizens' Climate Lobby, Seminole County Chapter

Citizens' Climate Lobby has reached out to the dedicated members of Audubon around the country to support legislation in Congress to add a fee to fossil fuels like oil, gas and coal. The fee would be applied at the source, well-head, mine, etc. and would increase each year to slowly raise the price of these fossil fuels so that the demand of this dirty energy would decline in the market. Consumers would then turn to renewable clean energy that is swiftly coming down in price. Investors and innovators would shift to this new clean energy industry. This would bring more and better products to the market.

The tax revenue to be raised by this fee would be returned to U.S. households in the form of a dividend check. This action is revenue neutral for government. All the money returns to consumers so that the economy does not suffer and citizens, particularly low-income families, are not disadvantaged.

Would such a Carbon Tax work? It has already been successfully used in British Columbia, Canada. Studies have shown that if this proposal was enacted in the U.S., CO2 emissions would fall by 33% in the first 10 years and by more than half in 20 years. For many people that seems a long way in the future, but that future belongs to our children and grandchildren. We must start now to leave a liveable planet full of bird song for them.

You can start the process today. Write or call your member of Congress to express concern about the dangers of climate change. Urge them to take action to reduce carbon emissions. If you wish to mention the Carbon Fee and Dividend program of Citizens' Climate Lobby that would be great. Senators and Representatives know that your vote this election year means their job. Just let them hear from you on this issue. [This link](#) has more information on the Citizens' Climate Lobby.

Plumbing Code Changes Requested

Representatives of Orange Audubon Society (OAS) have participated in the Central Florida Water Initiative for 2 years in efforts to reduce water wastage. The Florida Building Code, which includes the Plumbing Code, is modified only every 3 years. Significant water savings can be accomplished with several simple modifications of the code, so OAS has joined Audubon Florida and other environmental groups in requesting that modifications be approved by the Technical Advisory Committee and Florida Building Commissioners in this cycle.

The first proposed modifications relate to indoor water consumption: Adopt high efficiency flow standards for plumbing fixtures and fittings. This modification would require purchase of new fixtures that are WaterSense labeled. The EPA's WaterSense program, launched in 2006 following the model of the EPA's better known Energy Star labeling program, assists buyers to voluntarily purchase fixtures with a higher level of efficiency—toilets using no more than 1.28 gallons per flush, showerheads using no more than 2.0 gallons per minute (gpm), lavatory faucets using no more than 1.5 gpm and sink faucets using no more than 1.8 gpm. In states like California with the most serious water problems, water use efficiency professionals since 2003 secured funding for Maximum Performance (MaP) Testing for toilets and other fixtures. Utility fixture rebate programs have focused on products that have scored well in this testing.

MaP testing protocol now is part of WaterSense labeling and the plumbing standards. Florida counties like Miami-Dade and Broward have joined California, Colorado, Texas, and Georgia in adopting these higher efficiency standards, and there now are nearly 10 years of success paving the way for this proposed code change.

The second proposed modification relates to outdoor water consump-

June Species Highlight:

Purple Martin

The Purple Martin is our largest swallow in North America. It is a beautiful song-bird, with the male sporting his glossy, bluish-black color and singing his rich, gurgling song. The female also has some of this bluish-black color, but it is more subdued and her belly is buffy with smudgy streaks. She also has a sweet call, comprised of chortles and whistles. Both sexes have a shallow, forked tail.

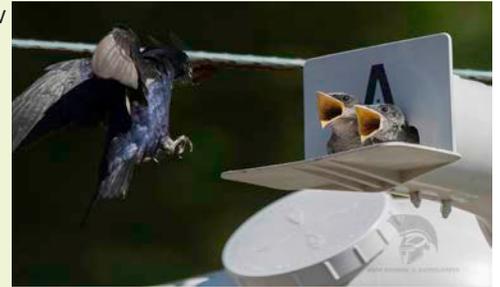
This amazing bird migrates 3000 miles, twice a year! They winter in South America and spend their spring and summer in North America. They start to show up in Florida in January and they are here long enough to fledge their young. At the end of the summer they begin to form large groups, sometimes large enough to be seen on weather radar, and then make their trek back to South America for the winter. When you stop and think about this, it is a truly amazing feat of nature! The longest living Purple Martin on record was a female in Illinois who lived to be 13. This means that she traveled roughly 78,000 miles in her lifetime!

Purple Martins eat mostly in flight, performing acrobatics in the air as they swoop, turn and fly upward catching their prey. They are important as a species because of the amount of insects they consume. In the past it was thought they mostly ate mosquitoes, but as mosquitoes are out at night, and the Purple Martins eat during the day, this has been found not to be true. They will eat mosquitoes, but also moths, wasps, flies, dragonflies and many other insects.

Purple Martins are secondary-cavity nesters, meaning that they do not excavate their own holes for nesting. Thousands of years ago, they used woodpecker holes or cavities in trees. Because of the forestry practice of removing dead, standing trees, these birds lost much of their natural nesting habitat. Humans began the practice of putting up homes such as hollowed-out gourds for these insect eaters. The martins readily took to them and this caused a complete behavior shift. The Eastern subspecies of Purple Martin is almost entirely dependent on man-made nesting boxes. They prefer to nest in rural areas and near open water, raising 1-3 broods each year. Often they are competing with House Sparrows and European Starlings (both introduced species to the U.S.) for these nesting sites.

I was fortunate this year to be able to work with Audubon Florida in coordinating volunteers for the Epcot Purple Martin exhibit. This allowed me lots of time to observe Purple Martins. It was a great experience and one I will treasure. There are many Purple Martins around now with many fledglings. A great place to see Purple Martins is the Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive. Get out and bird!

Brook Rohman, Education Committee



Purple Martin male bringing in food for nestlings. EPCOT Purple Martin display. Photo: Brad Rohman

tion. With new homes and homes from as early as the 1970s having in-ground automatic irrigation systems, improving efficiency of these systems is imperative. Irrigation systems being more complicated and far more prone to damage or misuse than indoor fixtures, the focus has turned to the installers and irrigation contractors. The Florida Irriga-

tion Society voluntarily developed Appendix F, prescribing standards and education for irrigation contractors. Unfortunately only a few Florida counties have adopted this Appendix. OAS supports this organization's request to have Appendix F with current updates become a chapter of the Plumbing Code.

Deborah Green with Bob Stamps



Blue Dasher Dragonfly, Gatorland. Photo: Susan Kirby

In Case You Missed the Program....

The Secret Life of Dragonflies

Deborah Green and Mary Keim jointly presented Orange Audubon's May 19th program on the Secret Life of Dragonflies. Deborah, a former entomologist, spoke about how the order Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies) fits within the Class Insecta. The name, from the Greek "odonto-", meaning tooth, is for the serrated mandibles that crush prey. The order is small among insect orders, but odonates have been around for over 300 million years according to fossil records. During the Carboniferous Period some were as large as 27 inches.

Dragonflies differ from their more delicate relatives, the damselflies, in that their wings rest apart, while those of the damselflies rest together. In both groups, the eyes are a pair of giant spheres that take up pretty much their entire head. These are compound eyes made up of as many as 30,000 facets. These detect color, movement and shape, allow 360 degrees of vision, and are among the best eyes in the insect world.

The four wings of dragonflies move independently, but efficiently, and these insects can hover, shoot up, zigzag or fly backwards for short spans. The dragonfly life cycle is tied with water, so the best thing we can do for them is to preserve wetlands, and to create water features at home.

Deborah detailed dragonfly mating procedures, explaining how you may see the "mating wheel" of attached male and female perched or flying around. The female lays eggs in the water, and eggs hatch water. An egg hatches into a small immature stage called a nymph. The nymph feeds on smaller creatures and grows until it is ready to crawl onto a branch or other object on land and eventually emerge out of its nymphal shell as an adult. YouTube videos illustrated the unusual way the mandibles extend to grab the nymph's prey and the unusual means of locomotion. Deborah closed her portion of the program with images of Swallow-tailed Kites, Kingbirds, and Purple Martins preying on dragonflies.

Using her excellent photography, Mary surveyed the common dragonfly species that she and her husband, Randy Snyder, have encountered on field trips in Central Florida or in their backyard. The Blue Dasher is the most common dragonfly in Randy and Mary's yard. Both sexes of Blue Dashers have a dark thorax with lateral yellow stripes. Mature males have a blue abdomen, while females and immature males have a dark abdomen with thin yellow markings. Mary suggested that the most common dragonfly you will encounter is the Eastern Pondhawk, in which the males are blue and the females green. These will follow you around. The Four-spotted Pennant is another common species, as is the Carolina Saddlebags. The Eastern Amberwing mimics wasps in its coloration and hangs around flowers, preying on pollinators. The Halloween Pennant also comes to flowers. Mary mentioned [Odonata Central](#) as an excellent online resource to help with identification.

She pointed out that the temperature must be 60 degrees or more before most dragonflies start flying. They may fly singly, may fly together as a single species, or one or two species may fly together. Some species including the Green Darner are migratory. An audience member shared information that the Wandering Glider has one population moving around the globe to suitable habitats.

Several audience members reported that they will never view dragonflies the same way after this presentation.

Summer Reading Suggestion

We hold nature in trust for future generations. It is not ours to spend nor ours to wreck. Yet we are doing both.

Agencies in the US, many set up in the 1970s "to protect the environment," routinely fail in their missions. DDT and PCBs were banned, but what about the rest that needs to be done?

How to preserve nature's trust in the face of the failures of bureaucracies over the past 40 years so we can pass on to future generations a thriving natural world is the subject of *Nature's Trust* (Cambridge University Press, 2014) and videos available on line by Dr. Mary Christina Wood, Professor of Law at the University of Oregon.

As birders, we share Dr. Wood's deeply felt moral imperative to stop the destruction of the natural world that supports all life. This imperative is, thankfully, firmly and broadly grounded in law. And lawsuits are now underway, some in the name of children, that assert the power of the trust doctrine Wood has applied to nature.

Praised by James Hansen, Bill McKibben and other leading environmental researchers and activists and likened to Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* in its historical importance, power and poetry, *Nature's Trust* presents a new paradigm to secure "the tapestry of Nature" that we have inherited.

Bettie Sommer, Orange Audubon Society member



Early Morning Greeting—Sandhill Cranes 2015
Chertok Photo Contest entry to be displayed at
Colonial Photo and Hobby. Photo: Lauri Griffin.

Silent Auction Donor Acknowledgement

Orange Audubon Society gratefully acknowledges donors who, at press time, have pledged to make contributions for the silent auction on June 16, 2016.

As other donations are received we will update a list on the website: www.orangeaudubonfl.org. Stay tuned. Donations pledged to-date are listed below.

- Albin Polasek Museum, Winter Park – Admission tickets
- Anderson, Bruce – The Birdlife of Florida by Henry M. Stevenson and Bruce H. Anderson (New); “A masterpiece of Florida Ornithology. Pick a species and learn more than you ever thought possible about its range and natural history.”
- Atlas Screen Printing/Wild Cotton – nature-inspired merchandise
- Audubon Center for Birds of Prey, Maitland – Behind-the-scenes tour and an annual pass to the Center for Birds of Prey
- Aquatica, SeaWorld’s Waterpark – 4 one-day admission tickets
- Barker, Linda Kellam – Two John Pitcher matted, framed prints: *Alaskan Willow Ptarmigan* framed to 30x39 and *Northern Bald Eagle* framed to 29x36; and a John James Audubon print, *Song Sparrow*, Plate Number 25, The Amsterdam edition with certification, framed to 28x41
- Biosphere native plant nursery, Winter Garden – Gift Certificate
- Bok Tower Gardens, Lake Wales – Admission tickets
- Bubbalou’s, Apopka – Two Pig Ones Gift Certificate for Dinner for 2
- BurgerFi- Gift Certificate
- Busch Gardens Tampa Bay – Admission tickets
- Carpenter, Linda – Collectible book: *85 Years Birding: Adventures and Learning* by Kenneth J. Johnson
- Chin, Teresa -- Gytaku Japanese fish print t-shirts: youth size medium and adult size large
- Colonial Photo & Hobby, Inc., Orlando – Cool merchandise for cool photo hobbyists
- Commissioner Bryan and Debbi Nelson – Nelson Family Cabin, Rock Springs Rd, near Kings Landing, Apopka: Weekend stay (2 nights/3 days)
- Dexter’s Restaurants, Dexter Richardson – Gift Cards
- Dixie Crossroads, Titusville – Gift Certificates
- Fischer, Sherry – Framed, double matted digital photo: *Reddish Egret*
- Florida Wildlife Corridor – DVDs: *The Forgotten Coast*, *Return to Wild Florida*; and *Florida Wildlife Corridor Expedition*, *Everglades to Okefenokee*
- Green, Deborah – 2 *Watching Wildlife in the Wekiva River Basin* + 2 *Paradise Preserved: Natural History Explorations—Canaveral National Seashore & Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge*
- Green Images native plant nursery, Christmas – Gift Certificate
- Green Isle Gardens native plant nursery, Groveland – Gift Certificate
- Heiberg, Milton – signed photographic prints
- Hounds & Kitties, Maitland – King Wubba large pull/tug dog toy and Gift Certificate for healthy pet foods & treats, toys, etc.
- Jackson, Beth – Key Lime pound cake and recipe (~12 slices 1,320 yummy calories)
- Kirby, Susan –original photography notecards, 6 packets, 4 designs each
- Kiwi Camera Service – Gift certificate for professional sensor cleaning, complete camera and lens cleaning and testing

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Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive: One Fun Year!



On May 1, 2016, to commemorate the 1st anniversary of the St. Johns River Water Management District’s Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive, Orange Audubon Society (OAS) volunteers were along the 11-mile Drive with binoculars, spotting scopes, and bird books, to help beginners enjoy some of the interesting birds. Good coverage on Channel 6 News and in the *Orlando Sentinel* brought out many newcomers to the Drive that Sunday and many stopped by our four stations to talk with us.

Thanks to the following OAS members who commemorated the Drive’s anniversary by helping beginners learn about wildlife: Tamar Boorstin, Deborah Green, Killian Hiltz, Susan Kirby, Larry Martin, Lori Mathis, Brook Rohman, Loretta Satterthwaite, Rebecca Smith, and Bob Stamps.

In its first year 54,000 people explored the Drive, marveled at alligators and wading birds, learned the difference between coots, grebes, and ducks, and turned up rarities. Photographers have found the Drive a paradise and post on the [Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive Facebook page](#). The Drive is open Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and federal holidays, and is located at 2803 Lust Road, Apopka. There’s always something interesting to see. See you out there!

Birdapalooza 2017

The 2017 Lake Apopka Wildlife Festival and Birdapalooza plans are being made. The 5th annual free family-oriented festival will be Saturday, January 21st at Magnolia Park. Orange Audubon Society will again invite local and out-of-town birders to take field trips on the Friday before (January 20th) and is adding trips on the Sunday after (January 22nd). For information on Saturday events, contact Phyllis Hall at phylliscath814@gmail.com and for information on the Friday and Sunday events, contact me at sabalpress@mac.com.
Deborah Green

Silent Auction Donor Acknowledgement

Continued from p.6

- Lake Apopka Wildlife Festival & Birdapalooza – official festival t-shirts
- Lakeside Inn, Mt. Dora – 2 day/1 night Gift Certificate
- Lighthouse Key Resort & Spa – 3 day/2 night stay in a two-bedroom villa
- Linn, Mary-Slater – Two framed bird prints
- Mad Cow Theatre Company – 2 tickets to regular performance
- Mellow Mushroom, Mt. Dora – “Mellow” money
- Miller’s Hardware – Squirrel-Be-Gone Wild Bird Feeder + bird seed and a Gift Certificate
- Orlando Camera Club – One-year individual membership
- Orlando Science Center – Admission tickets
- Pastavino Restaurant & Pizzeria, Apopka – Gift Certificate
- Ponsolle, Danielle – Plush 38” duck and Gift Certificate to Green Images native plant nursery, Christmas
- Poole, Richard – 3 nestboxes and native plants
- Porkie’s Original BBQ Ribs, Apopka – Gift Certificate
- Premier Boat Tours, Mt. Dora – Gift Certificate for Tour for 2
- Simpson, David – Birding for 4 with David Simpson
- Sloane, Margie – *Ibis Landing* – framed digital photo
- Smiling Bison Restaurant, Orlando and Sanford locations – Gift certificates
- Starbucks (Aloma at Balfour), Winter Park – Coffee and merchandise for java junkies
- Total Wine & More – Private wine class/tasting for 20 of 8 premium wines
- Universal Orlando Resort – Admission tickets
- Vincent’s Italian restaurant, Mt. Dora – Gift Certificate
- Walt Disney World – 4 Park Hopper one-day tickets
- Weader, Jennifer – notecards, original butterfly photography by Janice A. Carter, Set of 6
- Wekiva Island, Longwood – Two gift certificates for canoe rental
- Wild Birds Unlimited, Eustis – Bird feeder + bird seed
- Wild Birds Unlimited, Winter Springs – Gift Certificate
- Wild, Dena, Master Gardener – Certificate for 3 hours of consultation services in home gardening
- Williams, Teresa – Signed, limited edition #144-950, framed and triple matted watercolor street scene (L Umbrellas P. F.) by Donny Finley of AWS; Whimsical acrylic painting on vintage metal ceiling tile or fireplace surround; 2 jigsaw puzzles; Williams Sonoma Williams-Sonoma Pfaltzgraff rectangular platter 6” x 12”
- Winter Park Scenic Boat Tour – Tickets to tour 3 canal-linked Winter Park lakes
- Yebba, Ana, Hair Designer – Gift Certificate for salon services

Some restrictions may apply to time and use of gift certificates and/or tours. Florida sales tax of 6 1/2% will be added to the final bid price of taxable items. to the final bid price of taxable items.

Additional donations are expected before the June 16th event, so bring cash, checks and credit cards and be prepared to outbid even your best Audubon buddies!

OAS is grateful for your participation as a contributor, bidder or both. YOU make YOUR OAS chapter a big success.

Lori Parsons and Teresa Williams, Silent Auction Co-Chairs

May Field Trip Report

Seven attended the Orange Audubon Society field trip to the Joshua Creek Trailhead of Charles H. Bronson State Forest on May 21st.

The group observed at least 24 bird species including Sandhill Crane with fledged young, four woodpecker species including Red-headed, Great Crested Flycatcher, Red-eyed and White-eyed Vireos, Northern Parula and Eastern Towhee.

Odonates included Ebony Jewelwing (at Joshua and Buscombe Creeks), Cyano Darner, Gray-green Clubtail, Great Blue Skimmer, Bar-winged Skimmer, Slaty Skimmer, Little Blue Dragonlet, Eastern Pondhawk, Eastern Amberwing, and Blue Dasher.



Zebra Swallowtail at Charles H. Bronson State Forest.
Photo: Mary Keim

Other invertebrates included Pipevine Swallowtail, Zebra Swallowtail, Great Purple Hairstreak, Yellowjacket Hover Fly and Carolina Mantleslug.

Wildflowers in bloom included Saw Palmetto, Loblolly Bay, Ciliate Wild Petunia, Butterflyweed, Lizard’s Tail, Atlantic Pigeonwings, Blackroot, Florida Greeneyes and Florida Feathershank. We noted drops in elevation as we moved from sandhill into pine flatwoods and pine flatwoods into hardwood hammock. Thanks to all who have attended field trips this year!

Mary Keim, Field Trip Chair

Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area Trip

Orange Audubon Society’s (OAS) May Limited Edition Field Trip to Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area turned up over 55 bird species, including Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Bachman’s Sparrow, Sandhill Cranes, Bald Eagles, Common Nighthawks, and late warblers. Thanks very much to Bob Sanders for leading all the OAS Limited Edition Field Trips.

Colonial Photo & Hobby Showcases

Photos *Continued from p. 1*

From the Novice Category: *Early Morning Greeting - Sandhill Cranes* by **Lauri Griffin**; *Struggle for Survival* (First Place) by **Katie Houvener**; and *Excuse Me, Bathing Here!* - *Burrowing Owl* by **Gini Robinson** will be displayed; and from the Youth Category: *Baby Gators* (Honorable Mention) by **Arwen Paredes** and *Blue-winged Teal* by **Mason Theurer** will also be displayed.

Colonial Photo & Hobby has co-sponsored the Chertok competition since 2004 by contributing some of the prizes for winning photographers and featuring selected entries within their iconic and ever-busy retail premises. The store displays credit the photographers who beautifully portray Florida's natural world and help to increase interest in the annual competition and nature photography. *Teresa Williams, Chertok Photo Contest Chair*

Lake Apopka Tree Planting

A tree-planting event hosted by the St. Johns River Water Management District (District) will be held on the Lake Apopka North Shore. Cherry Lake Tree Farm will donate 1000 Bald Cypress trees for planting. Bald Cypress is one of the tallest and longest lived trees in the Southeast and is a keystone species for our region, facilitating nesting by wading birds and other species.

The tree planting will be Saturday, June 25th, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and will start at the District's Lake Apopka Field Station (25633 CR 448A, Mt Dora, FL 32757). From there, we will be dividing into teams, consolidating vehicles, and heading to remote areas of the property to plant the cypress trees. This is a free event, but pre-registration is required. It is limited to 50 registrations.

Participants will work with staff to install the cypress trees in one of four pre-selected areas. Be prepared to be in full sun and possibly in soft mud for planting. We recommend that you wear long pants and an old pair of sneakers that can be thrown away. Be sure to bring a hat, sunscreen, and plenty to drink. If you have a shovel for planting, please label it and bring it along. Children must be in middle school or older and must be accompanied by a parent or be part of an organized group with adult chaperones. We will return to the field station for a wrap-up by noon. If you have questions, please contact Rosi Mulholland at rmulholland@sjrwmd.com. To register go to [this link](#).



2015 Chertok Photo Contest entries now on display at Colonial Photo and Hobby. Above, Landing with Grace - Great Blue Heron. *Photo: Joaquin Paredes* Below, Aerial Drama - Two Roseate Spoonbills. *Photo: Bobby Van Mierop*

Help Still Need for Silent Auction

If you can help before, during or after the big June 16th event, please let Teresa know at mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or (407) 644-0796. Thank you!

Orange Audubon Society Wishes Everyone a Great Summer!

JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Chertok Nature Photography Contest Awards Program and Silent Auction

June 16, 2016
Contact Teresa at (407) 644-0796

Lake Apopka Tree Planting

June 25, 2016
Contact Rosi at rmulholland@sjrwmd.com

Orange Audubon Society Summer Board Planning Meeting

July 24, 2016
Contact Rick at rbaird4@att.net

Orange Audubon Society September Program

September 15, 2016
Contact Brook at brookrohman@gmail.com