



"The voice of Conservation in Central Florida"

OASis



*Orange Audubon Society
A Chapter of National Audubon Society and Audubon of Florida*

VOLUME 38

NOVEMBER 2002

NUMBER 3

In this Issue...

This Month's Program p1
Field Trips p1
President's Message p2
Conservation News p2
CNPC Theme Announced p3
Teacher Songbird Workshop p3
Silent Auction News p3
Tibet-Butler Celebration p3
Spring Migration Field Trip p3
Calendar of Events p4

Audubon Assembly Notes

The second annual Audubon Assembly, statewide Audubon conference, was held October 23-27 in Orlando. Members attended field trips and sessions and participated in forging Audubon of Florida's agenda for the upcoming year. OAS Education Co-chair Deborah Green gave a presentation on OAS's Teacher Songbird Workshop in an education panel. Deborah reports that a representative of Alachua Audubon said after attending her presentation, that their chapter would be interested in giving a Teacher Songbird Workshop in their area. Participants in Audubon Assembly learned a lot by discovering what other chapters are doing.

Orange Audubon Society meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:00pm in the Camellia Room at

*Harry P. Leu Gardens
1920 North Forest Avenue
Orlando, FL 32803-1537*

For directions, call 407-246-2620

This Month's Program: November 21, 2002 - 7pm Sea Turtle Conservation with Peter Pritchard, Ph.D.

Sea turtles are still endangered creatures but numbers have increased significantly since the Endangered Species Act of 1973 and specific sea turtle protection efforts. Dr. Peter Pritchard, President of the Chelonian Research Institute, will tell about his lifetime of work in conservation of sea turtles, including working with the Arawak peoples in the Amazon and his recent work in China and Vietnam. Please join us on November 21st at 7:00pm for an interesting program.

Deborah Green, Vice President

October Field Trip Report DICK SMITH, FIELD TRIP CHAIR

Fourteen birding enthusiasts spent a delightful morning at Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge on Saturday, October 19, 2002. The weather was fantastic, the birding was great, the location was gorgeous and the fellowship was wonderful! We counted 49 species of birds including six (6) of the Warblers: Northern Parula, Yellow-rumped, Yellow-throated, Palm, Black-and-white and

Common Yellowthroat.

Butterflies were very plentiful, allowing us to see and photograph eight (8) species including White Peacock, Palatka Skipper and Palamedes Swallowtail. Also observed were the River Otters and a Marsh Rabbit along with the usual American Alligators.

All in all, it was a great day to be in the great outdoors with good birding friends.

November Field Trip - Zellwood Wetlands

The November field trip, Saturday, the 23rd will be a driving trip on the beams of the Zellwood wetlands (Lake Apopka North Shore Restoration Area). This property is managed by the St. Johns River Water Management District and is closed to the general public. During the bird survey that has been conducted each month for the last two (2) years, we have sighted some great birds. We are already seeing large numbers of Northern Harriers and other raptor species over the fields this fall. SJRWMD has now flooded the "experimental" section, and we should see some good shorebirds.

ties to use it. We should be seeing shorebirds, ducks and other migrants.

Carpooling is essential. If you have an SUV or other high clearance vehicle, please drive it. Meet in the parking lot of the Winn-Dixie Supermarket just north of Apopka on U.S. 441. This is just north of the north terminus or SR 429 (Western Beltway). Please arrive in time to get signed up, get the vehicles filled and leave at 7:30am. Bring binoculars, spotting scopes, field guides, water, lunch and insect repellent.

Contact Dick Smith at 407-834-2197 or dick.smith@zepamfg.com if you have any questions. See you there!

If you have a spotting scope, please bring it, as we will have ample opportuni-

President's Message LORETTA SATTERTHWAITE, PRESIDENT

The weather's been great for getting outdoors and doing some hiking, biking, photography or simply communing. We certainly hope that you've been able to take advantage of this wonderful time of year.

Orange Audubon is involved in lots of activities during the next few months. Please come out and help us with some of them. By the time you read this, we'll have just been at our outreach and fundraising event at Lake Eola.

November 13th is Orange County Teach-In 2002. We have had several schools

call us asking if we could participate; these schools need about 2 hours of your time, usually in the morning. If you have some time and can give a short (young students have limited attention spans) presentation on some topic, probably of your own choosing, we can get you in touch with schools that requested 'teachers'.

On November 15th Orange Audubon's education and nature education center committees are giving a program for approximately 110 students from Dr. Phillips Elementary. We know we can use your help

on that day. We will need to divide these students into smaller groups so we need several people to assist us. (We will supply you with instructions and information, so please don't hesitate to volunteer.). If you can assist us, please contact me (407-886-2925 or LNS-OAS@att.net).

On November 16th we will be at another outreach event - this one at Tibet-Butler Preserve (near Lake Buena Vista, or is that now Disney village?). Again, please contact me if you can help us out that day.

Conservation News PEGGY COX, CHAIR

The OAS Conservation Committee met October 14th and discussed the following issues:

Audubon of Florida Conservation Resolutions that had been revised and approved by the St. Johns/Indian River Regional Conservation Committee at its meeting on October 5th. The Transportation Resolution was revised to focus on the need to reform our transportation policy in Florida to focus on local and regional mass transit, particularly commuter and light rail. Focusing our efforts at the State and Chapter level on opposing highway projects that threaten intact ecosystems and environmentally sensitive areas. The committee approved withdrawing the Econ River/Upper Econ Mosaic Resolution from the priority list. OAS believes the effort to encourage State and local purchase of conservation lands in the Upper Econ Mosaic can be accomplished through other resolutions including Land Acquisition, Growth Management, and Florida Water Resources. Our efforts in the past year were

successful only in advising Orange County during the purchase of part of the Holland Ranch, located in the Upper Econ Mosaic, as conservation lands for Orange County. Other resolutions revised and approved by the SJR/IRL committee were Indian River Lagoon Water Quality, Protected Species, and a new resolution on achieving a protected status for the Gull Billed Tern. All current Conservation Priorities of Audubon of Florida are available online at their website, www.audubonofflorida.org. The 2003 Conservation Priorities will be decided at the Audubon Assembly, October 25 and 26th.

OAS will be commenting at the Orange County Transportation Commission meeting for public input on November 13th. We are supporting the inclusion of commuter and light rail projects in the future transportation plans for Central Florida, and concentrating road improvements to existing transportation corridors to negate the detrimental effects of new highways on wildlife habitat and wetlands, air and water quality, and contributing to urban sprawl. This Commission will be presenting their final recommendations to the Orange County Board of County Commissioners on January 7, 2003. They meet each Wednesday at 9am-noon, Orange County Administration building, until December 18, 2002.

The Clean Water Act was enacted 30 years ago in October, 1972. In 2002, several rule changes were made to the Act, making it easier for industrial waste materials to be discharged into all waters. Also, a Court ruling in 2001 that removes protections for "isolated, non-navigable waters" has made a large amount of our wetlands vulnerable to polluting and destruction, weakening the Act. Two bills are now in Congress to try and reverse this damage. The Clean Water Protection Act and the Clean Water Author-

ity Restoration Act both need to be passed by Congress to restore important provisions of the Clean Water Act. Audubon's Capitol Connect Website has more information and available means to contact your Federal representatives to support these bills. Click on www.captiolconnect.com, or go to the National Audubon Website, www.audubon.org, to find out more on the Clean Water Act and other important environmental issues facing Congress. Because water supply, quality and quantity, is very important in our area right now, there are several upcoming public meetings and workshops OAS members will be attending. All interested persons are welcome at these meetings and workshops.

November 7, 2002, 3:30-5:30pm - St. Johns River Water Management District Public Workshop: "Recommendations on the St. Johns River Water Management District's Involvement in Water Resource Development and Water Supply Development", a draft discussion paper prepared by the District. The workshop will be at the Seminole County Services Building, 1101 E. First Street, Sanford. Participation of interested parties is welcome at this workshop. The report can be viewed on the SJRWMD website: www.sjrwmd.com/programs/involvement.html.

November 15, 2002, 10:00 am, is the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Public Workshop on "Proposed Wetland Mitigation Assessment Method and Rule" considered changes and standardization. This workshop will be held at the Orlando Public Library, Downtown Orlando, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Next OAS Conservation Committee Meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 11, 2002; 6:30pm, at the downtown Orlando Public Library. Call Peggy Cox for more information. 352-429-1042.

The Orange Audubon Society (OAS) promotes the understanding of and an interest in wildlife and the environment, recognition of the intangible values in the remaining natural beauty of Florida and the World, and the responsibility for the conservation of these remaining resources.

Orange Audubon Society
P.O. Box 941142
Maitland, FL 32794-1142

President.....Loretta Satterthwaite (lns-oas@att.net)
407-886-2925
Address Change.....Mike Daley (miked@k2net.cc)
386-668-5021
Editor.....Claire Hilliker (hilliker@iag.net)
407-677-5374

The OAS is published monthly from September through June and is sent free to all members of Orange Audubon Society.

<http://www.orangeaudubonfl.org>

Teacher Songbird Workshop November 9, 2002

Build a school-yard bird habitat. Lead your students on a nature walk. Need more background to liven up your teaching using nature concepts? Attend this free workshop on songbirds for teachers and youth group leaders on November 9, 2002.

This workshop will introduce you to the wonders of bird migration and give you the tools to develop great curriculum units and use science concepts to inspire active learning. Six in-service points are available for attendance of the entire 6-hour workshop for teachers from Seminole County, Orange County, Volusia County and Lake County. Home school moms and scout and youth

group leaders are also welcome. Activities include mist-netting and bird banding, bird identification walks, bird feeder making, and activities that work with kids. Participants will take away a binder of songbird curriculum materials including two books, donated by Orange Audubon Society and Sabal Press.

The workshop is November 9, 8am to 2:30pm at the Seminole Environmental Center, 1/2 mile from U.S. 17-92 on County Road. To register leave your name and phone number at (407) 869-7762 or email sabal@cfl.rr.com

Deborah Green, Education Co-chair and workshop organizer.

Tibet-Butler Birding & Wildlife Celebration Beckons You

You'll hike, explore and learn much more about birding and wildlife if you don't miss Tibet-Butler's Birding & Wildlife Celebration on Saturday, November 16th. You'll also have an opportunity to help OAS at our information, T-shirt and Kids art tables any time between 8am and 3pm. To volunteer, call or email Teresa (407-644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl.rr.com). For directions or general information, see the article in the October OASis, or call Cynthia Meketa at 407-876-6696. See you there!

Announcing the 15th Annual Chertok Nature Photography Contest Theme: "Florida's Native Plants and Animals"

We've provided the theme, now the rest is up to you. Get out those cameras, get out on those field trips, get close to nature, and yours could be the 2003 winning photo in Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) 15th Annual Chertok Nature Photography Contest (CNPC)! The focus of the contest is Florida's native plants or animals. No humans, human-made structures or artifacts, or significant non-native (to Florida) plants or animals can be in the photograph.

Deadline (postmark date) for submitting entries - May 15, 2003 the day of the OAS program meeting at Leu Gardens. Hand delivery at the May meeting is also acceptable.

Enter up to 4 color slides at \$2.50 each for OAS members and \$4 each for non-members. Non-members who join when submitting a contest entry form (membership application on back of contest entry form) also pay only \$2.50 each. Entry forms available at all future OAS meetings. Need more information? Call or email Teresa (407-644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl.rr.com) or check the OAS web page at www.orangeaudubonfl.org.

Winning photos announced, and cash prizes and ribbons awarded at the June 19, 2003 OAS potluck dinner / contest presentation at Leu Gardens. Good luck!
Teresa Williams, CNPC Chair

December Meeting Date Change

Please note that due to the holidays, the December general meeting will be held on **Tuesday, December 10th at 7pm**. The meeting will still be held in the Camellia Room at Leu Gardens. The OAS Board Meeting will be at 5:30pm, same date.

Silent Auction at November & December Meetings

Don't miss the action on "The Auction Block", a mini silent auction to benefit the Chertok Nature Photography Contest (CNPC) endowment fund. There's no telling what you'll find from month-to-month on "The Auction Block". We appreciate the donations these companies have made for the November / December auction:

- ☆ Atlas Screen Printing, Gainesville (Yes, its a sea turtle cap, Dr. Pritchard!)
- ☆ Purina Mills, Bushnell ("Premium Picnic" Wild Bird Chow - Wow! 250 lbs. of it!)
- ☆ Starbucks, Winter Park, Highway 17-92, (Do I smell shade grown coffee?)
- ☆ Williams-Sonoma, Winter Park (Pass the gourmet foods & stoneware basket.)

More goodies are expected, just not here at this writing. So bring cash and checks. Opening bids will be taken at the November meeting, closing bids at the December meeting. Highest bids rule. "The Auction Block" gives you a chance to support CNPC, bargain hunt and do some holiday shopping all at once. Some bids may be final in November; some may be final in December. Watch for more in next month's OASis. Thanks for participating!

Teresa Williams, CNPC Chair

Spring Migration Field Trip to Fort DeSoto

We will be having a special field trip to Ft. DeSoto, in St. Petersburg, on the weekend of April 12, 2003. (This is in addition to the regular monthly field trip for April which will be on Saturday, 4/19/2003 at Mead Gardens.) The plan is to drive over, at your convenience, the afternoon or evening of Friday, April 11th and spend the night at Eckerd College in the Elderhostel. The rooms will cost us \$55.00 each, with accommodations for two (2) people per room.

The next morning we can then be at Ft. DeSoto bright and early to bird the entire day. Ft. DeSoto has always been a premier birding spot for returning migrants coming back across the Gulf of Mexico. It is also an excellent location for gulls and terns.



We'll need to inform Eckerd College of the number of rooms that we will need at about the time of the December meeting (Tuesday, December 10, 2002), so you need to be thinking about this now. We will have a sign-up sheet at both the November and December meetings, or if you prefer, you can call me at 407-834-2197.

Dick Smith, Field Trip Chair

Officers & Board Members

President Loretta Satterthwaite 407-886-2925
 1st Vice-President Leesa Sward 407-677-5374
 2nd Vice-President Deborah Green 407-869-7762
 Secretary Terry Godts 321-436-4932
 Treasurer Teresa Williams 407-644-0796

Alex Alexander 407-678-8659
 Susan Clary 407-657-4374
 Peggy Cox 352-429-1042
 Susan Farnsworth 407-281-9178
 Louise Friderici 407-657-2135
 Marjorie Haverland-Holt 407-679-6759
 Milton Heiberg 407-658-4869
 Claire Hilliker 407-677-5374
 Mona Phipps 407-654-9151
 Arthur 'Randy' Ranson 407-657-1698
 Dick Smith 407-834-2197
 Bob Stamps 407-886-2925
 Jeremy Taylor 407-852-2836
 Jim Thomas 407-656-8277
 Pete Vogt 407-855-4122

Committees/Chair

Birdathon Susan Farnsworth
 Chertok Nature Photo Contest Teresa Williams
 Conservation Peggy Cox
 Education Deborah Green & Mona Phipps
 Field Trips Dick Smith
 Finance Milton Heiberg
 Hospitality Tom & Ruth Williams
 Membership/Promotion Claire Hilliker



Calendar of Events

November 9, 2002 - Saturday

Teacher Songbird Workshop, Seminole Education Center, Sanford, FL
 Deborah Green (407) 869-7762

November 11, 2002 - Monday

Conservation Committee Meeting
 Downtown Orlando Library, 6:30pm
 Peggy Cox (352) 429-1042

November 13-17, 2002 - Wed-Sun

Space Coast Birding and Nature Festival
 Titusville, FL (321) 268-5224
<http://www.nbbd.com/fly/>

November 16, 2002 - Saturday

Tibet-Butler Birding and Wildlife Celebration
 Cynthia Meketa (407) 876-6696

November 21, 2002 - Thursday

General Meeting, 7:00pm, Leu Gardens.
 OAS Board Meeting to take place prior to the
 General Meeting at 5:30pm. All welcome.
 Loretta Satterthwaite (407) 886-2925

November 23, 2002 - Saturday

November Field Trip, Zellwood Wetlands
 See front page for details.
 Dick Smith (407) 834-2197

December 7, 2002 - Saturday

Lake Apopka North Shore Restoration Area Bird
 Survey; 7:30am-Noon.
 Jim Peterson (352) 735-1267.

December 10, 2002 - Tuesday

General Meeting, 7:00pm, Leu Gardens.
 OAS Board Meeting to take place prior to the
 General Meeting at 5:30pm. All welcome.
 Loretta Satterthwaite (407) 886-2925

February 14-17, 2003 - Fri-Mon

Great Backyard Bird Count
<http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/>

February 22, 2003 - Saturday

Orlando Wetlands Park Festival, Christmas, FL
 Mark Sees (407) 568-1706

April 5-6, 2003 - Sat-Sun

Lake Eola Festival in the Park, Orlando, FL
 Teresa Williams (407) 644-0796

April 5, 2003 - Saturday

OAS Birdathon, Central Florida
 Sue Farnsworth (407) 281-9178

April 12, 2003 - Saturday

Spring Migration Field Trip, Fort DeSoto, FL
 Dick Smith (407) 834-2197

Volunteers Needed to Help with Hospitality!

Volunteers are always needed to help our Hospitality Committee with the lovely refreshments that are available at each OAS meeting. To find out how you can help, please call Tom and Ruth (407-332-5089). We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting!

All Birds Art Show

An All Bird Art Exhibit will be held from November 30th through December 7th at the Fredlund Wildlife Gallery. The gallery is located at:

Fredlund Wildlife Gallery
 1219 N. Orange Avenue
 Orlando, FL 32804
 407-898-4544

NON-PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 Orlando, FL
 PERMIT NO. 790

Orange Audubon Society
 P.O. Box 941142
 Maitland, FL 32794-1142

