



"The voice of Conservation in Central Florida"

OASis



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

VOLUME 39

APRIL 2004

NUMBER 8

In this Issue...

This Month's Program p1
 Field Trips p1, p5
 President's Message p2
 Conservation News p2
 Nominating Committee Recommendations p5
 GBBC - Good Job Orlando! p5
 Docents Needed for ONP p5
 Chertok Photo Contest p5
 Butterfly Field Course p6
 Calendar of Events p6

Reminders...

....The 2004 OAS Birdathon will be held on Saturday April 17, so get ready! Join us in counting birds to help raise much needed funds for Orange Audubon Society. Pledge sheets were included in last month's OASis, but extra ones can be picked up at this month's meeting, or can be printed directly from the Orange Audubon Society's web site at www.orangeaudubonfl.org

....The Tarflower Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society will host the 24th Annual Conference this year in Orlando. Please join the members of FNPS at this exciting event. For more detailed information, see the conference website at www.fnps.org/chapters/tarflower/conferenceHomePage.htm.

Orange Audubon Society meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of every month (Sept - June) 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: April 15, 2004 - 7:00pm Florida's Special Butterflies by Buck and Linda Cooper

Buck and Linda Cooper are among Orange Audubon's favorite speakers and their subject, butterflies, is one we always find fascinating. Florida has 162 species of butterflies, and Linda and Buck intend to see them all, ephemeral as some of them are. This month Linda and Buck will talk about "Florida's Special Butterflies." Join us April 15 for another great program!
Deborah Green, Vice President

April Field Trip - Mead Gardens, Winter Park

The spring migrants will be coming thru and we are going to see them! On Saturday, April 17, 2004 will bird the delightful Mead Gardens in Winter Park. This little park always draws an unusually large number of migrants and we are going to see what we can find. We will walk the trails and boardwalks at a very leisurely pace for about 2 or 3 miles and afterwards enjoy a picnic lunch at some of the tables. Come and join us for a nice little walk in the park.

The entrance to Mead Gardens is located at 1500 S. Denning Drive. Take Garden Avenue east from Hwy 17-92 two blocks directly into the park. Bring binoculars, field guides, insect repellent, good walking shoes, water and your lunch for an enjoyable morning communing with nature. We will begin at 7:30 AM.

If you have any questions, please contact Dick Smith at 407-257-7361 (Cell) or dick.smith@zepamfg.com.

March Field Trip Report DICK SMITH, FIELD TRIP CHAIR

Because Disney Wilderness Preserve is closed while work is being done to the trails, we birded at Tibet-Butler Preserve on CR 535 in south Orange County instead. The birds of the day had to be the American Goldfinches in breeding plumage and the equally striking Eastern Bluebirds at West Beach Park just south of the preserve. It isn't often that we get to see these two species in all their splendor, but this time the morning sun was just right to show them at their best! Altogether, we had 38 species of birds including American White Pelican, Green Heron, Wood Stork, Wood Duck, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and Eastern Towhee.

Mary Keim made her usual contribution by teaching us about many of the plants along the trail, and Randy Snyder identified all of the butterflies that we encountered, of which there were many.

If you haven't visited this delightful park, you are missing a really nice place to enjoy the outdoors. Two Saturdays each month, the staff has a program called "Eco Saturdays" during which they host a walk thru the park concentrating on one subject. Call in advance to participate 407-876-6696.

The weather was beautiful and it was a good day to be in the great outdoors with good birding friends.

President's Message LORETTA SATTERTHWAITE, PRESIDENT

Spring has come!! Along with it, a flurry of activities have occurred. My thanks to the nominating committee for rising to the challenge of preparing a slate for the April election (see related article). Also, my thanks to those who responded to the request to serve Orange Audubon and its members.

Additionally, thanks not only to Teresa Williams for organizing the great cast of volunteers for both the Leu Gardens Plant Sale and the Lake Eola Fiesta in the Park, but also to the volunteers. With back-to-back events like these, it is necessary to call on many

volunteers to be successful in our mission to reach out and find new members and to raise money to allow us to meet our budgetary goals.

Finally, as the legislative session moves along, thanks to Peggy Cox and the conservation committee (and others) for keeping on top of state issues, while not losing ground on the many local fronts. Please remember this committee can always use your help. These problems just never go away, they simply change from one location to another.

One last 'upbeat' item: in late March, I received word that there was a Mandarin Duck 'hanging around' with some Wood Ducks on Lake Dwarf in the Pine Hills area. After confirmation of this report, it was discovered that a Mandarin Duck had been sighted on Lake Highland in mid-February, but is no longer there. You may still have a chance to see this male Mandarin; however, sightings have been right at day break so be prepared to rise early! Good luck with your duck hunting!!

Conservation News PEGGY COX, CHAIR

It's spring, a beautiful time of year in Florida, and a great time for birdwatching! OAS's upcoming Birdathon is a great time to get out and look for our feathered friends and collect some pledge money for Audubon at the same time. Count birds with your own team, or join with other Orange Audubon members on a team and get out and enjoy birdwatching for a good cause. Last month's OASis had a pledge sheet and other instructions on being a successful birdathoner! It's fun to do - so do some birdwatching on April 17th and send in your species list to Birdathon Chair, Claire Hilliker at hilliker@iag.net, or call 407-677-5374.

And one of the premier birdwatching spots in Central Florida is getting better. The North Shore Restoration Area of Lake Apopka is moving towards its goal of restored wetlands and better water quality. Phase 1 of the Marsh Flow-Way, located just west of the Apopka-Beauclair Canal, on part of Clay Island lands, is now fully operational and successfully settling out phosphorus as

it was designed to do. In the first 2 months of operation the marsh flow-way system is removing about 10 lbs. of phosphorus a day. It is estimated that the 660 acre treatment area will move approximately 75% of the volume of water in the lake through the flow-way in a year. In addition to the annual harvest of gizzard shad, 9 million pounds since 1993, the marsh flow-way will be a major component in restoring the water quality of the lake. On the north shore, 700 acres of the former Duda farms are being shallow flooded, moving towards wetland restoration, and attracting many bird species. OAS plans to have more activities on the North Shore restoration area as facilities become available for better access for the public.

Since it's spring, that means the Florida Legislature is back at work, and we have been monitoring what's going on regarding environmental issues and new legislation. There is good news and bad news. Some of the good news is the Wekiva Coordinating Committee recommendations for the river basin and the Wekiva Parkway are being presented in Senate bill 1214 and it's progress through committees has been good. \$25 million is being requested for acquisition of identified conservation lands in Orange and Lake counties. Supporters of the legislation and Audubon staff feel confident that the bill should progress through without serious difficulties this year. Sen. Lee Constantine (R) of Altamonte Springs is the sponsor. Call him in support of the bill, 850-487-5050 or constantine.lee.web@flsenate.gov.

Bad news is Senate Bill 1174 (companion bill House Bill 1205) that would reduce State, regional and local authority to approve or deny large-scale developments, known as DRIs, Developments of Regional Impacts. There are different thresholds for being considered a DRI, from county to county, but

this bill would significantly reduce the thresholds that trigger a development being considered a DRI. It would also limit the kinds of issues that can be reviewed, eliminate the ability of local governments to require that future changes to approved DRIs be consistent with local comprehensive plans, and exempt marinas from being under the planning requirements of DRIs. This bill further weakens growth management at every level, including environmental reviews. Contact your local State Senator with objections. Bill for both House and Senate can be reviewed at www.leg.state.fl.us.

Good and bad news - The Department of Environmental Protection, at the end of February, adopted a water reservations rule, implementing Florida Statutes 373.223(4) that allows reservation of water for fish, wildlife, and natural systems. On March 15th, the Association of Community Developers, a powerful building lobby, filed a rule challenge with the State asking the rule be rescinded claiming developers will need that water for new developments and it shouldn't be reserved for natural systems. The State Division of Administrative Hearings (DOAH) will hear the challenge. The first water reservation is scheduled in April for the Loxahatchee River. It is a necessary component of Everglades restoration projects. Florida's State Parks department has been hoping to use water reservations to better maintain some of the Park system's water resources. Audubon of Florida is considered filing a Petition in support of DEP's rule with DOAH.

OAS' conservation committee will be meeting in April; time and location yet to be decided. If you are interested in joining the committee and helping on any conservation issue, please call or email me; pegcox@att.net, or call 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 (Ins-oas@att.net)
407-886-2925
Address Change.....Mike Daley (miked@atlantic.net)
386-668-5021
Editor.....Claire Hilliker (hilliker@iag.net)
407-677-5374

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

<http://www.orangeaudubonfl.org>

NATURAL LAWS OF ECOLOGY

by Loretta Satterthwaite

Back in the 1970s, I taught a university biology course for “non-biology majors”. In it, we attempted to instill some knowledge of the natural laws that run the universe. One of the units in the course dealt with the “**5 Laws of Ecology**”, which were put together using the ideas of great environmentalists such as Barry Commoner and Garrett Hardin. Unfortunately, people have remained quite ignorant of these laws and we have not made much progress, if any, towards understanding or living by them in nearly 35 years. In fact, most people, as witnessed by the misuse of terminology in the press, do not know the difference between the words *environment*, the biological and physical components of a particular area, and *ecology*, the study of living things in relation to each other and to their physical environment.

As we approach another anniversary of Earth Day (April 22nd), let’s recall the words of Rachel Carson “I truly believe that we in this generation must come to terms with nature, and I think we are challenged as mankind has never been challenged before, to prove our maturity and mastery, not of nature but of ourselves.” How much time do we have left?

THE “FIVE LAWS OF ECOLOGY”

THE LAW OF INTERDEPENDENCE (Everything is related to everything else; you can not do just one thing!)

As the earth evolved, a great variety of living things proliferated, making possible new interactions with the existent physical cycles and among the new organisms. Cycles were built on cycles, forming a vast and intricate web replete with branches, interconnections and alternate pathways. Because of the circularity of ecosystems and their complex branching patterns, the behavior of any given living member of the system is dependent upon the behavior of many others. Any given intrusion on an ecosystem is likely to have effects that spread out in an ever-widening circle from its original source, affecting organisms and parts of the environment even very remote from the initial point of intrusion.

As population grows, land is cleared to build homes, golf courses, shopping areas, etc., and wildlife habitats are destroyed. This destruction disrupts the cycles of the ecosystem (environment) causing animal species to die or move away. This, in turn, can cause their food sources (plant or animal) to proliferate and cause problems for the encroaching humans. Humans respond in many ways, some of which include spraying insecticides and herbicides. These, in turn, disrupt the environment and more human “solutions” are used to “correct” the resulting problems; once again disrupting the environment and causing more human “solutions” to be employed.

Consider the technological achievements of channelizing the Kissimmee River and reducing the flow of water to the Everglades or of “draining” the Florida swamplands, reducing the flow of fresh water into the estuaries, which damaged the valuable breeding environment for fish and shrimp.

Humans must become accustomed to looking at nature as a system and ecological consequences should be carefully evaluated at the time of **planning** some technological “advancement”.

**GET INVOLVED IN THE PLANNING PROCESS;
HELP KEEP FLORIDA A DESIRABLE PLACE TO LIVE.**

THE LAW OF STABILITY (There is stability in diversity; multiple links in the web of life

One of the great delusions of humans throughout the centuries has been the belief that the resources of the earth are inexhaustible. They are not! The earth has a strictly limited supply of everything. We are too easily misled by the presumed ability of our technology to rise to any occasion; that even though a finite earth has finite resources, advancing technology will make what was once unreachable or uneco-

ease the disruptions caused by disturbances.)

Complexity is a natural product of the web of interrelationships and creates a dynamic equilibrium that permits alternate relationships to develop when any particular link in the network becomes inoperative. The more cross-links in an ecosystem, the more chances there are for the ecosystem to compensate for changes imposed upon it and remain stable.

Natural systems vary in complexity. One of the major problems with human intrusion in even the most seemingly stable ecosystems is the difficulty in determining just how much change and what kind of change the system can withstand since we do not know what ramifications will result from our actions. The ecosystem is like a spider web — how many strands can you remove before the functionality of the web is destroyed?

Consider the stability of the agricultural monocultures in Florida — cold weather (a physical perturbation) and the citrus canker (a biological perturbation) each had devastating effects on this simple human-made ecosystem.

Benjamin Franklin said “they that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety”. These words have meaning in an ecological context. Humans have long been engaged in the process of sacrificing the environment to obtain a little security through immediate increase in material well-being. The loss has been gradual, each step is hardly noticed since it is measured against the immediate past and weighed against some immediate material gain (a highway cutting through a forest, a new commercial product that is not biodegradable, etc.). Each new episode brings about an almost irreversible change. Complexity dwindles, choices narrow, and we find ourselves in a technologically driven, computer-directed culture that we cannot abandon without disaster and which we must keep ‘jacking up’ with more technological “solutions”.

**WHAT MATERIAL GAINS CAN YOU DO WITHOUT IN ORDER TO
HELP PRESERVE DIVERSITY?**

THE LAW OF LIMITATIONS (Growth has limits. Earth is a spaceship; there is a limited supply of everything!)

nomical both practical and profitable. Using cultural means, rather than biological adaptations, some humans have been able to escape, *for the present*, the natural environmental limitations to growth and, in the process, we have created conditions that are stressing the limits of the earth’s carrying capacity.

All living species, plant and animal, have natural regulatory mechanisms for controlling their populations within

environmentally fixed carrying capacities. Of all living species, humans are the only organisms that have been able to manipulate their reproductive capabilities and the environmental constraints put upon them by limited resources, and spread across the face of the planet like a growing cancer. With the growth for growth's sake business credo, humans are bound to destroy their life-sustaining resources and destroy themselves in the process. (Some hope that human self-destruction will happen before it is too late for the rest of the organisms of the earth to make a comeback from human-inflicted devastation.)

At the local, state, national and international levels, the concept of growth is the great driving force. No one can be satisfied with enough; we must produce more, consume more, produce more, and on and on. Quantity is a virtue in this viewpoint; quality of life is simply regarded as who has the most; contentment with enough is regarded with contempt.

With limited resources and an ever-growing human population, each of us must make reasonable, rational decisions to help make the earth livable.

CONSERVE PRECIOUS RESOURCES.

Say "Enough is sufficient". Re-use materials, recycle whenever possible.

**IF YOU ARE NOT PART OF THE SOLUTION,
YOU ARE PART OF THE PROBLEM.**

THE LAW OF EVOLUTIONARY COMPATIBILITY

(Nature knows best!)

Cycles in nature are closed, materials are re-used, and there is an evolutionary harmony in these cycles!)

Since the earth was formed, organisms have developed together in the slow process of evolution. As environments — both physical and biological — slowly changed over time, organisms with characteristics that enabled them to adapt to these changes and remain in harmony with their surroundings survived.

Once the human population became the dominating force on the earth and began rapidly and prolifically producing synthetic substances never before encountered in the natural environment, nature's cycles were disrupted. Decomposer organisms did not have the capabilities to degrade the foreign substances and put them into a re-usable form; accumulation of these substances occurred (called "pollution") and natural cycles became less effective and entire ecosystems were affected. Remember the disastrous effects of DDT on birds of prey and other animals!

Humans have succeeded only too well in the production of synthetic substances that have had disastrous effects on our environment. Witness the condition of the atmosphere — smog in our major cities, depletion of the ozone layer and build-up of carbon dioxide (a natural component, but produced in such excess that it can not be dealt with in the natural processes) — as just one example of human interference in the cycles of nature. Unfortunately, knowledge of these types of perturbations has been only slowly discovered and many humans still believe that there is some technological "fix" around the corner, so the progressive degeneration of the environment will continue.

You are not a producer/manufacturer of these deadly synthetic, toxic substances, so there is nothing you can do

about this "law of ecology", right?

LIVE IN HARMONY WITH THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.

Prevent problems before they occur by choosing native and natural methods of coping with "problems" that do exist. Try to see the "big picture" and where you fit in the natural scheme of things. Is the "problem" a real threat or something you can live with if it will help save the environment?

USE MASS TRANSIT, RIDE A BICYCLE OR WALK TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF POLLUTANTS GOING INTO THE AIR.

THE LAW OF AMPLIFICATION AND INTENSIFICATION

(Everything must go somewhere.

There is no such thing as waste!)

The vastness of the earth has fostered a tradition of unconcern about the release of wastes into the environment. Indeed, small particles injected into the atmosphere or the waterways of the globe may travel far from the source, thus enhancing this notion. Yet, the time for airborne particles to make one circuit around the earth in the middle latitudes varies from a maximum of 25 days to less than 15 days. Similarly, the oceans' surface currents can move materials 5 to 10 miles a day and in major currents, such as the gulf stream, much higher rates exist.

Pollutants, to be sure, may be diluted to trace amounts — to levels infinitesimal by ordinary standards — measurable only in parts per billion or less in the air, water or soil. But nature has ways of concentrating these substances; toxic materials that are ingested at the bottom of a food chain may not be metabolized nor excreted by that organism, but retained in certain body tissues. At each subsequent level in the food chain, the toxic material becomes more and more concentrated, reaching levels many times higher than that found in the environment.

The accumulation of a variety of persistent toxic substances in the ecosystems of the earth is a problem to which mankind will have to pay increasing attention. The picture from such researches is not a comforting one as witnessed by the earlier finding of mercury concentrations in the Florida panther. Now, almost every evening the newscasters remind us to eat fish only twice a week because of the threat of mercury contamination. Because of the evolutionary relationship of all life, one can only guess at what the consequences of these substances are or will be in the future.

Non-biodegradable products are being produced in ever increasing amounts; these, too, must go somewhere and since they do not biodegrade, they will be around until humans discover a method to return them to their previous natural state.

Even biological wastes are being produced in such great amounts that the earth's natural cycles do not have the time to degrade them. Newspapers and steaks thrown into landfills have been found intact after 20–30 and 13 years, respectively. Humans must begin thinking about the consequences of their actions *before* taking action!

THERE IS NO AWAY!!

Think before you buy!

Think before you throw it away!

Good Job Orlando!

In the 2004 Great Backyard Bird Count, the Orlando area was the #3 city nationally in number of species reported and Florida was the #3 State. Orlando bird counters reported 137 species, and in all of Florida we counted 239 species. Florida was the #4 State in number of birds reported, coming in at 207,978 total birds.

The 3 most reported species in Orlando were: 1) Ring-billed Gulls, 22 reports counting 859 birds! 2) American Robins, 23 reports counting 654 birds; and 3) Yellow-rumped Warblers, 26 reports counting 438 birds. Some of the rare birds sighted in the Orlando area (just 1 bird spotted each) were a Sooty Tern, a Tundra Swan (!), and Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Quite an impressive total.

Peggy Cox

Chertok Photo Contest News

Prizes Increase ~ Deadline Draws Near

You have plenty of time and many opportunities left to take and submit your nature slides for OAS' 2004 (16th Annual) Chertok Nature Photography Contest. Please note that you can have your prints, negatives or digital images easily converted to slides for entry. Upcoming field trips to Ft. DeSoto and Mead Gardens in April, butterfly ID classes at Orlando Wetlands Park in May, plus bird banding and survey activities are just a few great settings where you might capture a great native nature shot. The 2004 theme is Native Wildlife of Florida – Preserving Nature through Photography. This 35-mm slide competition is open to all ages. The subject matter must be native to Florida, so participants can enhance their knowledge of native species.

The image that takes first place will grace the cover of next year's OAS brochure, and the photographer will receive a \$125 cash prize. And that's not all. We are pleased to announce that in addition to the OAS cash prize and recognition, Colonial Photo & Hobby, Inc., Orlando, Florida, will award an in-store gift certificate (\$100 face value) to the first place winner. Second and third place winners will receive \$75 and \$50 cash prizes, respectively, and all winners, including honorable mentions, get ribbons and recognition in the OAS membership newsletter, OASis.

To encourage nature photography and enhance recognition of OAS and the contest, Colonial Photo & Hobby will also display an enlarged print of a winning slide within its retail premises. The display will credit the winning photographer, describe the equipment used and locale in which the shot was taken and publicize the contest. Deadline for postmark or hand delivery of entries is May 20, 2004, with winners announced at OAS's annual potluck dinner and slide show of photo contest entries on June 17, 2004. For entry form with contest rules, visit www.orangeaudubonfl.org or give your name and address to Teresa (407) 644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl.rr.com. Good luck! Teresa Williams, CNPC Chair

Docents Needed!

The Oakland Nature Preserve is seeking volunteer docents to answer questions and give tours to raise public awareness about its mission to promote understanding of the fragile balances among land, water, mankind, and the environment by EDUCATING present and future generations about the natural ecosystems of the Lake Apopka Basin and by RESTORING and CONSERVING the lands within the Preserve. Interested persons should be able to commit to 3 to 4 hours a month (not necessarily all on the same day), be physically capable of walking all the trails in the preserve, and enjoy talking with people and spending time outdoors. Knowledge of the flora and fauna of upland sandhill and wetland ecosystems, and the history and restoration plans of Lake Apopka are helpful, but not necessary, as training will be provided. Please contact Jackie Osburn at 352-242-1321 if interested. Thank you for supporting the Oakland Nature Preserve!

Ft. DeSoto Field Trip Trip-Notes & Reminders

1. Checks should be made out to Orange Audubon Society and mailed to Teresa Williams at P. O. Box 941142, Maitland, FL 32794-1142 by Saturday, April 10, 2004 or brought to the April 15, 2004 meeting. Cost is \$70.00 for each room.
2. Transportation to Eckerd College, 4200 54th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, on your own Friday, April 23, 2004.
3. We are staying at the Continuing Education Conference Center Lodge, just inside the entrance, on the left. Phone 772-865-7155 and ask for James Frasier or Joan Karins if you get lost.
4. Some of us will be scouting Ft. DeSoto Park on Friday. You might want to also.
5. Check out will be BEFORE breakfast on Saturday.
6. Cancellation, with a full refund, before 4:00 PM, Tuesday, April 20, 2004. Call Dick Smith at 407-257-7361 (Cell) to cancel.
7. Breakfast will be at 7:00 AM Sharp! in the cafeteria in the building behind the Lodge. The charge is \$5.00 per person.
8. Be sure to bring your spotting scopes, as we will be using them at North Beach.
9. Don't forget binoculars, field guides, sunscreen, insect repellent, water, good walking shoes and headgear.
10. We will probably eat lunch at the snack bar in the park.

Nominating Committee Recommendations

The nominating committee — Dick Smith, Danielle Ponsolle and Chris Gandy, who replaced Marge Holt because of previous commitments — is proposing the following slate of officers (for 2-yr terms) and board members, whose term ends in June 2007:

President – Loretta Satterthwaite

1st Vice President – Leesa Sward

2nd Vice President – Deborah Green

Secretary – Elsa Millard

Treasurer – Teresa Williams

Board members: Bob Ferguson, Milton Heiberg, Claire Hilliker, Ellen Rocco, and Ayme Smith.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor before the election, which will occur at the general meeting in April, just prior to the program.

OAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
Loretta Satterthwaite 407-886-2925

VICE PRESIDENT
Leesa Sward 407-677-5374

VICE PRESIDENT (PROGRAMS)
Deborah Green 407-869-7762

SECRETARY
Mary Keim 407-851-5416

TREASURER
Teresa Williams 407-644-0796

BOARD MEMBERS
Susan Clary • Kimberly Clough • Peggy Cox • Mike Daley
• Louise Friderici • Milton Heiberg • Claire Hilliker • Arthur
Ranson • Ayme Smith • Dick Smith • Randy Snyder • Bob
Stamps • Pete Vogt • John Winfree • Gordon Wolfram

OAS COMMITTEES/CHAIRS

BIRDATHON Claire Hilliker

CHERTOK NPC Teresa Williams

CONSERVATION Peggy Cox

EDUCATION Deborah Green
& Leesa Sward

FIELD TRIPS Dick Smith

FINANCE Milton Heiberg

HOSPITALITY Tom & Ruth Williams

MEMBERSHIP Mike Daley

NEWSLETTER Claire Hilliker

Calendar of Events

April 2-4, 2004 - Fri-Sun
Big "O" Birding Festival; Lake Okeechobee FL
www.bigobirdingfestival.com

April 3, 2004 - Saturday
LANSRA Bird Survey; 7:30am-Noon.
Pam Bowen 386-329-4870
pbowen@sjrwmd.com

April 3-4, 2004 - Sat-Sun
Fiesta in the Park, Lake Eola
Teresa Williams 407-644-0796

April 10, 2004 - Saturday
Hal Scott Regional Preserve & Park and Long
Branch Park Bird Survey. Call Lorne Malo (407-
349-2536)

April 15, 2004 - Thursday
General Meeting, 7:00pm, Leu Gardens.OAS
Board Meeting takes place prior to the
General Meeting at 5:30pm. All welcome.
Loretta Satterthwaite 407-886-2925

April 17, 2004 - Saturday
Field Trip - Mead Gardens
Dick Smith 407-834-2197
dick.smith@zepamf.com

April 17, 2004 - Saturday
OAS Birdathon 2004
Claire Hilliker 407-677-5374
hilliker@iag.net

April 23-24, 2004 - Fri-Sat
Ft. DeSoto Field Trip; St. Petersburg FL
Dick Smith 407-834-2197
dick.smith@zepamf.com

April 24, 2004 - Saturday
Hal Scott Regional Preserve & Park and Long
Branch Park Butterfly Survey. Call Randy Snyder
(407-851-5416) or Lorne Malo (407-349-2536)

April 24, 2004 - Saturday
Welcome Back Songbirds Festival
Chinsegut Nature Center, Brooksville FL
Kristin Wood 352-754-6722
kristin.wood@fwc.state.fl.us

May 1, 2004 - Saturday
LANSRA Bird Survey; 7:30am-Noon.
Pam Bowen 386-329-4870
pbowen@sjrwmd.com

May 13-16, 2004 - Thurs-Sun
FPNS Annual Conference
Hotel Royal Plaza, Lake Buena Vista, FL
Karina Veaudry 407-228-2875
veaudry@netzero.net

Butterfly Field Course

Orange Audubon Society is sponsoring a field course on Central Florida Butterflies. The 9-hour course (3 sessions of 3 hours each) is being offered on Saturdays, May 1, 8, and 15, 2004 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. This course will involve observation and identification of butterflies at Orlando Wetlands Park and adjacent Seminole Ranch Conservation area near Christmas, FL. Instructors will be Orange Audubon members Randy Snyder and Mary Keim.

Early registration fee is \$25 (postmarked on or before April 21, 2004). Make check payable to ORANGE AUDUBON SOCIETY. Note on check "Butterfly Field Course" and mail to: Randy Snyder, 1584 Outlook Street, Orlando, FL 32806-7806.

The regular registration fee of \$35 is due at the beginning of class on May 1st.

Recommended field guide is Butterflies through Binoculars: Florida by Glassberg, Minno, and Calhoun, 2000, Oxford Univ. Also recommended are close-focusing (6 ft. or less) binoculars. Eagle Optics 8x32 Ranger (www.eagleoptics.com), for example, has a minimum focus of 3 feet. (See www.naba.org/binocs.html or www.birds.cornell.edu/publications/livingbird/spring99/binos.html for other binocular suggestions).

For more information call Randy or Mary at 407-851-5416.

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

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

