

"The voice of Conservation in Central Florida"

OASis



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

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Reminder...

... For those planning on attending field trips or the picnic, please check with the event's coordinator a few days prior to the event in question. Several natural areas have been severely affected by recent hurricanes and are closed to the public due to safety concerns, so please check with your trip leader before travelling to an area you may or may not be able to enter. Coordinator contact information may be found in the Calendar of Events section on page 4.

... November 2nd is fast approaching, don't forget to exercise your right to vote! For those who will not be available on that Tuesday, you can vote early or by absentee ballot.

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: October 21, 2004 - 7:00pm Beautiful Birds- Beautiful Music by Kevin Doxstater

Kevin Doxstater is a Daytona Beach area amateur photographer specializing in birds, who has won in our past Chertok Photo Contests. Kevin is becoming a master at doing not only portraits of the birds but catching the action shots. Some of his photography appears at www.dox-photo.com. For our October program, Kevin has put together 400 of his most exciting bird photographs and set it to the music of Beethoven's 6th Symphony (movements 1 and 5) and the Overture to Egmont. Join us October 20 for a great program. As always, our programs are free and open to nonmembers as well as members.

Deborah Green, Vice President

October Field Trip - Wekiwa Springs State Park *** CANCELLED***

The field trip to Wekiva Springs State Park will have to be rescheduled due to severe damage to trails and roads by the numerous hurricanes that have affected Central Florida. Over 100 trees are down in travel areas. We will attempt to tour both this park and Seminole State Forest later in the year as conditions allow.

We HOPE to have a "birding hike" and the picnic on that Saturday, October 23 and a decision will be announced at the October meeting on the 21st. For those who cannot attend the meeting, please call Bob Ferguson at 407-644-7850 on or after Wednesday of that week for field trip information. This

change will also be listed on the website but the new announcement will probably not be posted in advance of the trip. Thank you for your understanding!



President's Message Loretta Satterthwaite, President

This is an extremely important time of the year. Generations to come depend upon your actions. Please do your research and VOTE in a way that will help preserve a healthy and safe environment for all living things to enjoy. There are several websites (www.audubon.org; www.sierraclub.org; www.nature.org; www.defenders.org; www.npca.org; www.lcv.org and many others) that can be used to help you ascertain the facts so that you can make a wise choice on November 2nd (or earlier if you choose to vote early). This is a critical decision; whatever you do, exercise your right to help make a difference.

Some believe that it doesn't matter who occupies the White House; that no matter which party is in charge — foreign policy, the economy, taxes, etc. will all remain the same. Whether this is true or not, we do know that environmentally, there is a big difference. So do your homework and then vote as though your life, and the life on the planet, depends on it.

Please bear with us as we face the uncertainties about our upcoming events that we have written about in this issue. Who knew when we were planning our season's activities that we'd face such turmoil as Charley, Frances, and Ivan have dished out? And now we face Jeanne! Rest assured that the board is working to try to find alternative solutions to some of the events — whether waiting to the last minute in hopes that the scheduled event may occur, canceling the event or finding a new venue. With new uncertainties arising and the deadline to go to press, we are making our best guesses as to what will happen. That may not be good enough, so please come to this month's meeting, call the listed number or email me (LNS-OAS@att.net) for the latest information. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting and the picnic.

Let's Party!

It's a picnic! The Orange Audubon Society Board of Directors has decided to hold its first, of what may become an annual, members' picnic. This is simply a day to come out and have some fun — hiking, birdwatching, swimming, canoeing (rentals are available) and/or just getting to know other OAS members. It will be on Saturday, October 23rd at the Sinkhole Pavilion at Wekiwa Springs State Park. We'll be there all day (the park opens at 8:00 AM), so bring your lunch or come for some camaraderie before or after lunch — it's up to you. (Charcoal will be provided if you want to use the grill that is provided at the pavilion.) Please join us; fall has arrived and the daytime temperatures have become more pleasant. [Just as a reminder, unless you have purchased an annual state park pass, the entry fee is \$5 per vehicle with as many as eight people.]

At the time this goes to press (Friday, September 24th), officials at the park expect it to be open and the boardwalk and trails near the pavilion area to be useable. However, Hurricane Jeanne has just turned towards Florida, so if there is more damage at the park and we must cancel, we will announce it at the general meeting on October 21st. You may also contact me for last minute information at 407-886-2925 or LNS-OAS@att.net.

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

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

http://www.orangeaudubonfl.org

September Field Trip Report BOB FERGUSON, FIELD TRIP CHAIR

A big apology to anyone who made it to Seminole State Forest for the trip and didn't make it over to Orlando Wetlands Park for the "Relocated" field trip. We were advised on Monday afternoon that the main state office had canceled all forest access that day for safety reasons. The rangers were very kind and apologetic but had no choice since safety is paramount. They hope to reschedule the trip later this year and we will announce it in the OASis.

Mark Sees at OWP was kind to help us enjoy a wonderful alternative trip "on the berms". Sixteen very intrepid birders experienced a fine "safari" noting 56 species of birds as well as the gators, deer, turtles, snakes, and "critters" that always seem to

ORANGE AUDUBON SOCIETY **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2004–2005**

Susan Clary (05)	407-836-6348
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Bob Ferguson (07)	407-644-7850
Chris Gandy (06)	407-380-8704
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Bob Stamps (05)	407-886-2925
Leesa Sward (06)	407-677-5374
Pete Vogt (05)	407-855-4122
Teresa Williams (06)	407-644-0796
John Winfree (06)	407-302-6536
Gordon Wolfram (06)	407-855-9633

show themselves at OWP. We were rewarded with nine black-bellied whistling ducks, two eagles, many osprey, and several other raptors. Bob Sanders returned on Sunday to find eight eagles, kestrels, and several other raptor species! Great fun! Highlights included watching red tail and red shouldered hawks interact over the marsh, 2000 common grackles flying over at dawn, white tailed deer bounding through the marsh, and the great teaching by park specialist Bob Wheeler. Some other birds of note were yellow warbler, black crowned night heron, American bitterns, and limpkins! We look forward to our return trip early next year to see the ducks that have yet to arrive. Come join us then!

Festival Fundraising Returns!

About 100 'volunteer hours' are needed to cover OAS' participation in the Lake Eola Fiesta in the Park Arts and Crafts Festival on November 6th and 7th around beautiful Lake Eola in downtown Orlando. Volunteer help is needed each day (Saturday and Sunday) between 8am ~ 6pm.

OAS' participation in the 'Fiesta' festivals began about 9½ years ago and has become a semi-annual tradition with good reason. A significant portion of our annual budget (this year estimated at 25%) has been derived from 'Fiesta' and similar fundraising efforts, making your help a vital element in achieving OAS' financial goals.

You'll find the perfect job to match your talents. Help set up or break down our display, sell T-shirts, make children's nature art collages, enjoy the gift of gab with event-goers and get to know fellow OAS volunteers. On-the-job training and excellent festival fringe benefits (you can eat funnel cake!) await you. To sign up contact me by e-mail: mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or by phone: 407-644-0796. Shifts from 8am-1pm or from 1pm-6pm are preferred, but any amount of time will be sincerely appreciated. Thanks for helping to make this a successful and fun fiesta. Teresa Williams, Treasurer

First Hawk ID Field Trip

The 1st Hawk ID Field Trip will be held on Saturday, November 13, 2004 on St. Johns River Water Management District property at the Lake Apopka North Shore Restoration Area in Zellwood. Once again this year, Bob Sanders will be the Field Trip Leader, assisted by Bob Wheeler of OAS and Jim Peterson of SJRWMD. The plan is to car pool and drive to a location on the property where a stationary observation post will be established. The field



trip will be for approximately 3 hours. Bring binoculars, spotting scopes, field guides, folding chairs or stools, water and your enthusiasm for raptors, and please be on time.

Due to the possibility that the property may not be accessible after hurricane Jeanne, you are asked to contact Bob Sanders at 407-898-9798 a few days **before** the trip to check on whether the trip is still on and for a meeting time and location. Happy Birding!

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!

Audubon Adventures

Do you know a student (grades 3-6) who might be interested in the environment, perhaps your child or grandchild? Sponsor an Audubon Adventures classroom! A check to Orange Audubon in the amount of \$41.50 will send a package of environmental lessons for the children, a teacher's guide, a poster, and other materials to

the local classroom of your choice. Note on your check that the (tax deductible) donation is for Audubon Adventures and mail it to OAS at the address listed on page 2. Thanks!



Volunteers Needed

Wekiwa Springs State Park has suffered extensive damage in all areas that they maintain. They are working hard to reopen the park and the north areas (Rock Springs & Wekiva Preserve) but they could REALLY use some volunteer help! If people are interested in helping, call 407-884-2006 (administration office) to volunteer.

OAS Volunteers Asked to Help at ONP

As part of Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) continuing efforts to educate the citizens of central Florida about Nature so that they will have an interest in and concern for the environment we all share, we are seeking volunteers to help provide educational nature walks at Oakland Nature Preserve (ONP). These walks will be held in conjunction with the City of Oakland's Heritage Festival on Saturday, October 30th. ONP is a jewel of about 128 acres of land on the south shore of Lake Apopka. The property includes uplands and a 2,756 foot boardwalk that goes through the wetlands all the way down to the lakefront. We are looking for persons to lead birding, butterfly, native plant, wildlife, etc. walks. Please let me know immediately if you are willing to share your knowledge so that we can get the walks listed in the festival program. Thanks in advance for your help. Bob Stamps (407-886-2925; bob_stamps@att.net)

For the Year Ending June	30, 2005	<u> </u>
Income:		
Contributions	\$	8,500
Fund raising/outreach events		5,729
Investment earnings (net)		1,200
Membership dues		3,545
Educational classes and programs		1,375
Other fund raising		2,020
Total income		22,369
Expenditures:		
Conservation		750
Education		3,500
Fund raising/outreach events		3,100
Membership		300
Newsletters and annual brochure		6,452
Operating - insurance		2,217
Operating - other		1,290
Other fund raising		1,300
Programs		2,460
Sanctuary maintenance (from reserve	в)	1,000
Total expenditures		22,369
Change in net assets	\$	0

Requests for additional financial information may be directed to Teresa Williams, Treasurer, by phone (407-644-0796) or by e-mail (mwilliams@cfl.rr.com).

OAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT Loretta Satterthwaite	407-886-2925
VICE PRESIDENT Leesa Sward	407-677-5374
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SECRETARY Elsa Millard	407-682-1509
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	Kimberly Rougeux & Leesa Sward
FIELD TRIPS	Bob Ferguson
FINANCE	Milton Heiberg
HOSPITALITY	Tom & Ruth Williams
MEMBERSHIP	Mike Daley
NEWSLETTER	Claire Hilliker

Calendar of Events

October 2, 2004 - Saturday LANSRA Bird Survey; 7:30am-Noon. Pam Bowen 386-329-4870 pbowen@sjrwmd.com

October 21, 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

October 23, 2004 - Saturday OAS Field Trip - Wekiwa Springs State Park Bob Ferguson 407-644-7850 rfergusonhsd@earthlink.net

October 23, 2004 - Saturday OAS Picnic at Wekiwa Springs State Park Sinkhole Pavilion Loretta Satterthwaite 407-886-2925

October 30, 2004 - Saturday Hal Scott Regional Preserve & Park and Long Branch Park Butterfly Survey. Randy Snyder 407-851-5416

November 6-7, 2004 - Sat-Sun Fiesta in the Park, Lake Eola Teresa Williams 407-644-0796

November 6, 2004 - Saturday LANSRA Bird Survey; 7:30am-Noon. Pam Bowen 386-329-4870 pbowen@sjrwmd.com

November 13, 2004 - Saturday Birds of Prey ID Class - Lake Apopka North Shore Restoration Area, Zellwood Bob Sanders 407-898-9798

November 17-21, 2004 - Wed-Sun Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival Neta Harris 321-268-5224 or Laurilee Thompson 321-268-5000. www.nbbd.com/fly

November 18, 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

November 20, 2004 - Saturday OAS Field Trip - Lake Apopka North Shore Restoration Area, Zellwood Bob Ferguson 407-644-7850 rfergusonhsd@earthlink.net

OAS Board Member Seeks SWC District Seat



Susan Clary, board member for Orange Audubon, announced her candidacy for Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor on the November 2nd ballot in Orange County. Susan is running for this unpaid, nonpartisan, countywide seat as a lifelong conservationist and Florida native who wants to work in public office on conservation issues and improve the environment for everyone. To assist her efforts or learn more about this elected office, visit Susan's website at www.susanclary.com or call her at 321-217-7371.



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