



"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...

...this month is our last program before taking a break for the summer, and will begin at **6:00pm**. Bring a dish to share, plate & utensils, and your checkbook for the silent auction! Have a great summer and see you in September!!!



Orange Audubon Society meetings are free to the public and held on 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: June 19, 2008 - 6:00pm - Harry P. Leu Garden OAS' Annual Potluck Dinner/Auction & Chertok Nature Photography Contest

Join us for OAS' final program of the season, a sensational experience for the palate and the visual senses, beginning with a potluck dinner featuring main courses provided by **Brandywine's Delicatessen** (owners/OAS members Kathy and John Frankenberger). Satisfy your gastronomic craving with sumptuous house baked turkey and ham, baked ziti, pasta salad and dinner rolls a la Brandywine's, a Winter Park establishment for 35+ years. Complement the main fare by bringing your favorite dish to share — salads, side dishes, desserts or beverages — and join us at 6:00pm. Please also bring your own re-useable plates, glasses, flatware and serving utensils so that we can "live gently" that evening.

Satisfy your visual senses with the evening's program — the showing of eligible entries in OAS' 20th Annual Kit and Sidney Chertok Nature Photography Contest, which begins around 7:00pm. Never in the contest's history have so many photographers participated or so many entries been received! The humor, drama and simple beauty of nature, Florida style, will come to life as we proudly present entries from 111 photographers in this year's double feature: "Florida's Avian Wonders" and "Florida—Beyond Birds".

On a virtual tour de Florida, we will travel from St. Augustine and the Panhandle to the Keys and dozens of locales in between; nature will enthrall and the suspense of the competition propel you to the edge of your seat until the conclusion of the program, when winners of each category are announced and ribbons, cash and other prizes valued over \$1,000 are awarded.

Who will win the contest? The suspense does not end there. Who will win at the silent auction tables? Throughout the evening bidding on silent auction items contributed by local businesses and other friends (see article inside for featured items) will propel you to the edge of your wallet! And, who will take home the centerpiece door prizes contributed by *Driftwood Gardens, Inc.* (owners/OAS members Bill & Rachel Tippit)?

Mark the date and remember to bring checkbook or cash (sorry, credit cards not accepted), your most delectable culinary dish and place settings and join us for an amazing evening as we make a gentle fuss over us! See you there.

Teresa Williams, OAS CNPC Chair

May Field Trip Report MARY KEIM, FIELD TRIP CHAIR

Six birders braved the heat to attend the OAS May 17th field trip to Seminole Ranch Conservation Area in Christmas. At least 39 bird species were observed including Wood Stork, Red-shouldered Hawk, Limpkin, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Great Crested Flycatcher, Tufted Titmouse, Red-eyed Vireo, White-eyed Vireo, Carolina Wren, Northern Parula, Blackpoll Warbler, and American Redstart. Other vertebrates included Opossum and Coral Snake.

Eleven butterfly species were seen in-

June Pot Luck Dinner

For all of you photography fans planning to attend June's meeting when we will all learn who this year's Chertok winners are. Orange Audubon will be providing sliced turkey and ham and rolls. We are asking that those planning to attend bring one of the following: a salad or other side dish, dessert or drinks. Remember to bring your own cups, plates and eating utensils. If you have any questions call me, your hospitality chairperson, Ellen Rocco 404-282-8547.

Genius Reserve Landscape Restoration

Dr. Bruce Stephenson, of Rollins College, will be the guest speaker at the July 1, 2008 meeting of the Tarflower Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society at 7pm at Leu Gardens. He will present information and pictures of the landscape restoration of the Genius Reserve. There will be a follow up field trip to the Genius Reserve in September.

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.

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<http://www.orangeaudubonfl.org>

cluding Palamedes Swallowtail, Black Swallowtail, Phaon Crescent, White Peacock, Viceroy, and Least Skipper. Flowers in bloom included Pickerelweed, White Bracted Sedge, Yellow Bachelor's Button, Buttonbush, False Dragonhead, Swamp Milkweed, Fewflower Milkweed, Brown's Savory, Rosegentian, and Verbena.

This was the last regular field trip of the season. Thanks to those who attended for the pleasant walk in the woods. See you in September!

Final Limited Edition Field Trip Report

On May 24th we convened the final Limited Edition Field Trip for this season at the Lake Apopka Restoration Area. We covered the Duda Ponds and areas west of the Apopka-Beauclair Canal including the flow way and Clay Island. At least 65 species of birds were seen plus many alligators, butterflies, and dragonflies including a Roseate Skimmer. Birding highlights: White Pelican, 13 species of large waders (Roseate Spoonbill - 25, Wood Stork), many Ospreys, Bald Eagle, King Rail - 4, Purple Gallinule, Limpkin, hundreds of shorebirds (Semipalmated Plover, Black-necked Stilt, Spotted Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper - 100), Caspian Tern, Forster's Tern, Least Tern, Black Skimmer, and Florida Scrub Jay.

I think we had a good first season for these experimental field trips that are limited to ten people and require a \$10.00 reservation fee. I'm hoping we can do it again next season.

I'd like to thank all who participated. Special thanks to Dick Smith for his encouragement and to Jim Peterson, Project Manager, St. Johns River Water Management District for his assistance at the Lake Apopka Restoration Area.

If anyone has any questions or comments please contact me at 407-766-5490, procrow@bellsouth.net, or procrowbird@bellsouth.net.
Bob Sanders

Summer Workdays Planned at Genius Reserve

Imagine scenes evoked by Rawlings in Cross Creek—Old Florida, undeveloped, inhabited sparsely by people and largely by native wildlife, scenes that exist only in the past ... you believe. Fast forward to the year 2008 and a place known as the Genius Reserve, Winter Park where scenes from Cross Creek come back to life.

On June 28th and August 3rd Orange Audubon Society (OAS) volunteers can help with two special workdays on the Reserve, contributing to a restoration plan that is making this vision of Old Florida a reality.

Come Saturday, June 28th, 9–10:30 am with gloves and shovel in hand to plant native trees as part of a plan to revive the degraded, hydric habitat along Lake Berry, one of three lakes that embrace the 48+ acre Reserve. The planting is an important step in reviving the area to provide additional habitat for ~ 100 bird species and other wildlife (American alligator, armadillo, box turtle, red fox, gopher tortoise, gray squirrel, raccoon, river otter and more) that use the property.

The planting also continues the primary goal of an on-going ecological restoration project that began in 2003: preserving the cultural and historical aspects of the property while restoring the landscape with native plant species. The project led by Bruce Stephenson, professor of environmental studies at Rollins College, involves his students and others who use the Reserve as an outdoor lab, applying principles learned in class to the practice of restoring land to a healthy state.

During summer months when most students are away, OAS volunteers fill a vital gap in the restoration effort. We need every available hand and shovel for the June 28th planting project; details of the August 3rd workday will be provided later. If you would like to participate in these or other Genius Reserve workdays, contact me: 407-644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl.rr.com. First-time volunteers please provide full name, address, emergency and other contact numbers, which are needed for insurance purposes. To learn more about the Genius Reserve, visit: <http://www.rollins.edu/olin/archives/Genius/>.

Meeting place, maps and other details will be provided closer to work dates. Thank you for making OAS an important partner in a worthwhile project. Teresa Williams

Silent Auction Donor Acknowledgment

Orange Audubon Society gratefully acknowledges the following donors who, at press time, have made contributions for the silent auction and door prizes on June 19th:

- *Biosphere, Winter Garden* – \$50 Gift Certificate for plants or other merchandise
- *Boston's Fish House* – Certificate good at New Smyrna Beach and Winter Park restaurants
- *Center for Birds of Prey* – Guided tour of the Center
- *Colonial Photo & Hobby* – \$600 Gitzo tripod
- *Darden Restaurants* – \$50 in gift cards good at any Darden restaurant in Central Florida
- *Dexter's Restaurants* – \$150 gift card for Thornton Park, Winter Park and Lake Mary locations
- *Driftwood Gardens, Inc. and owners Bill and Rachel Tippit* – Bromeliad planters
- *The HoneyBaked Ham Store, Altamonte Springs* – A HoneyBaked Ham©
- *Lukas Butterfly Encounter @ Lukas Nursery, Oviedo* – Two annual family passes (\$50 value each) for 2 adults and up to 4 children
- *Old Fashioned Airboat Rides* – Certificate good for two adult tickets (value \$90)
- *Panera Bread, locations in Central Florida* – Lunch for a Year certificate (\$85 value)
- *Rhonda Sward* – Framed Winter Park Sidewalk Art Festival posters
- *Wild Birds Unlimited, Winter Springs (owners Janey & Allan Jahner)* – Merchandise that brings nature into your world
- *Wildscape Images, Orlando* – Wildlife print by award-winning owner/photographer Robert J. Amoruso
- *Winter Park Scenic Boat Tour* – Gift Certificates for 6 adult admissions (value \$10 each)

Some restrictions apply to time and use of gift certificates and/or tours. Florida sales tax of 6½%, when applicable, will be added to the final bid price of all taxable items.

Additional donations (including those of the Make It, Bake It, Grow It type) are expected before the June 19th event, so once again you are reminded to bring cash or checkbook and be prepared to outbid even your best Audubon buddies! OAS is grateful for your participation as a contributor, bidder or both. You make this auction a big success. Teresa Williams, CNPC Chair

Silent Auction — Make It, Bake It, Grow It

At this month's Orange Audubon Society (OAS) meeting on June 19th, we will once again have our Silent Auction with items from local businesses and items that you have personally made, baked or grown (Make It, Bake It, Grow It - i.e. MIBIGI). This is always a fun, but frantic event because of time and space limitations. We will not have space for your 'gently used', nature-oriented (aka 'rummage') items at this event, but will next fall, so please keep them until later and busy yourself making, baking and growing goodies for the June 19th auction.

If you have something to contribute to June's MIBIGI silent auction, please contact me (407-886-2925; LNS-OAS@att.net) so that time and space may be allotted and sales sheets may be made prior to the meeting. Please provide description, minimum bid and approximate retail value of your donation(s) to facilitate advance planning and ensure OAS' compliance with sales tax requirements. Deadline for notification is Sunday, June 15th since the meeting is June 19th.

[Helpful Hint: Judging from experience, two or three lower priced contributions will probably receive more bids than a larger more expensive item (e.g. if you bake cookies, package them into 3 or 4 cookies per item with a fair minimum price rather than putting 12 cookies in one package at 3 times the minimum price). Please call or email me if you have further questions.]

Since this is a busy, jam-packed evening, we need several volunteers to help us throughout the evening; it's not hard work, just a lot of it in a few hours. We need some volunteers who can start about 5:00pm; others can help as early as you're able to get to Leu. We'll be setting up dining tables, check-

ing donated items in, helping hang enlarged photo images, keeping bid sheets current and items organized during the auction, and upon close of the auction, 'running' items to the cashiers for payment and check out, not to mention helping to 'clean up' so that we can meet the 'out of the parking lot by 9:00pm restriction' from Leu Gardens. Please contact me (see above) if you can help us that evening.

If you would like to help your chapter end this fiscal year on a successful note, come prepared to bid (cash or checks; no plastic) and work. See you at the potluck/auction!!
Loretta Satterthwaite

Thanks for Dinner!

Brandywine's Delicatessen, Winter Park & Owners/OAS Members Kathy and John Frankenberger will serve turkey, turkey, ham, ham, baked ziti & pasta!

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Calendar of Events

June 7, 2008 - Saturday

LARA Bird Survey; 7:30am-Noon.
Pam Bowen 386-329-4870/pbowen@sjrwm.com

June 14, 2008 - Saturday

Little Big Econ S.F. - Joshua Creek Track Bird Survey
Lorne Malo 407-349-2536/407-659-4853(w)

June 19, 2007 - Thursday

Annual Pot Luck and Chertok Nature Photography Contest, **6:00pm**, Leu Gardens.
Dick Smith 407-257-7361/rls-oas@earthlink.net

June 21, 2008 - Saturday

Mead Gardens Bird Survey; 8:00am-10:00am.
Dexter Richardson 407-760-8193
dex@dexwine.com

June 28, 2008 - Saturday

Lower Wekiva State Reserve Butterfly Survey
Mary Keim & Randy Snyder 407-851-5416

July 12, 2008 - Saturday

LARA Bird Survey; 7:30am-Noon.
Pam Bowen 386-329-4870/pbowen@sjrwm.com

July 12, 2008 - Saturday

Little Big Econ S.F. - Joshua Creek Track Bird Survey
Lorne Malo 407-349-2536/407-659-4853(w)

July 26, 2008 - Saturday

Lower Wekiva State Reserve Butterfly Survey
Mary Keim & Randy Snyder 407-851-5416

August 2, 2008 - Saturday

LARA Bird Survey; 7:30am-Noon.
Pam Bowen 386-329-4870/pbowen@sjrwm.com

August 9, 2008 - Saturday

Little Big Econ S.F. - Joshua Creek Track Bird Survey
Lorne Malo 407-349-2536/407-659-4853(w)

August 30, 2008 - Saturday

Lower Wekiva State Reserve Butterfly Survey
Mary Keim & Randy Snyder 407-851-5416

September 6, 2008 - Saturday

LARA Bird Survey; 7:30am-Noon.
Pam Bowen 386-329-4870/pbowen@sjrwm.com

September 20, 2008 - Saturday

Little Big Econ S.F. - Joshua Creek Track Bird Survey
Lorne Malo 407-349-2536/407-659-4853(w)

September 27, 2008 - Saturday

Lower Wekiva State Reserve Butterfly Survey
Mary Keim & Randy Snyder 407-851-5416

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Orlando & Owners Steve & Mike Rausch:

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