



"The Voice of Conservation in Central Florida"

OASis

Orange Audubon Society

A Chapter of National Audubon Society and Audubon of Florida



Vol. 45

June 2010

Issue No. 10

**This Month's Program: June 17, 2010 – 6:00 pm
at Harry P. Leu Gardens
OAS' Annual Potluck Dinner/Auction
& Chertok Nature Photography Awards**

Join us for Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) finale program of the 2009–2010 season—a delicious potluck buffet followed by a double feature of Chertok Nature Photography Contest entries. The evening begins with dinner at 6:00 pm. Brandywine's Deli (Winter Park) will provide Veggie Lasagna, coleslaw and rolls; and OAS will provide turkey and ham that you complement by bringing your favorite covered-dish(es) to share: salads, side dishes, desserts or beverages. Please also bring your own re-useable plates, glasses, flatware and serving utensils so that OAS can show its color (green) by "living gently" that evening.

Afterwards, enjoy an exclusive showing of eligible entries in OAS' 22nd Annual Kit & Sidney Chertok Nature Photography Contest beginning around 7 pm. This year's double feature comes from the two categories of competition: "Actions & Interactions" and "Close Encounters". Be prepared for this year's incredible photographs of Florida's native nature to enthrall you.

The suspense mounts ... will your favorites win? More important, will your entry win? Answers unfold at the program's conclusion when winners of each category of the Open and Youth contests are announced and over \$1,000 in ribbons, cash and other prizes are awarded.

Meanwhile there is heightened Action and Interaction from friendly competition at the silent auction tables. Who will *bid on and win* the evening's featured auction item: a pair of Swarovski EL 8 x 32 W B binoculars (list for \$2,088; generally sell for ~\$1,800) donated by Mosquito Creek Outdoors, Apopka, FL (owners/OAS members Paul & Diane Faircloth). Throughout the evening you may place your bids on this and other items contributed by local businesses and other friends (see article inside for featured items). 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, neither credit nor debit cards 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

Chertok Photo Contest Chair

Orange Audubon Society meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of every month (Sept. - June)

at 7 P.M. in the Camellia Room at:

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

For directions call: 407-246-2620

Rescheduling of Genius Ecological Workday!

The workday at Genius Drive Nature Preserve in Winter Park (originally scheduled on May 23rd) will take place on Sunday, June 13th, from 9:30–11:30 am. Volunteers should bring gardening tools, gloves and water.

All work, no play? No way! Most work-days end with a walk through the property, a treat for new and seasoned volunteers who simply wish to linger in this ‘old Florida’ landscape a while longer. Further details and a reminder will be e-mailed to those who volunteer. If you can help, please contact me at mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or 407/644-0796. Thank you.

Teresa Williams
Genius DNP Volunteer Coordinator

Goodies, Goodies

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) has a long tradition of having snacks and drinks available at our monthly meetings. However, it is our members who bring these goodies for everyone to share and we thank each of you for your continued support of OAS and its activities in this way. This year we are pleased to also thank Amie Dawson for not only bringing food and drinks to the meetings, but for seeing that everyone else’s offerings were laid out for everyone to enjoy. Our thanks to Amie and Dick Smith, her helper bee!

Loretta Satterthwaite and Bob Stamps

Reminder!

Just a quick reminder for our continuing members and a notice for those of you who have joined Orange Audubon Society (OAS) in the past year, the meeting in June is the final activity for OAS for the 2009–2010 season. The next *OASis* will be sent to members in September; please continue to visit our website (www.orangeaudubonfl.org) for important announcements or updates on activities during the summer. Over the summer, we will be planning the activities for the upcoming year, so if you wish to make suggestions, please contact us by visiting the website and using the telephone or email addresses listed on it. Have a great summer!

What You Can Do About the Oil Spill & Help Rescue Florida’s Coastal Birds —

Effects of the recent Deepwater Horizon rig explosion in the Gulf are just beginning for much of the wildlife that will eventually be devastated by this ecological disaster. Learn how you can help by visiting <http://audubonoffloridanews.org/>. Click on the photo/box that says “Gulf Oil Spill Response /How You Can Help” (near the top right hand side).

If you want to donate money, rather than time, you might be interested in the following URL: Bird Lover, 11, Painting to Save the Gulf. She donates one of her paintings when a person donates to specified organizations (including National Audubon Society). Check it out. Thank you for your concern and willingness to help.

Viera Field Trip Report

On May 22nd, six OAS members braved the heat and lovebugs to explore Viera Wetlands. Though we didn't have a huge number of species, we did get: Least Bittern, Crested Caracara and Limpkins as highlights. The Limpkins were calling during most of the trip, which was very entertaining. A few American Coots were still hanging around and there were young Anhinga still in the nests. We’re looking forward to more trips starting in September.

Gallus Quigley, Field Trip Chair

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>

Silent Auction

The June 17th Orange Audubon Society (OAS) meeting will once again include a 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). Unfortunately we cannot accept 'gently used' items for this auction due to space and time constraints. If you have something to contribute to June's MIBIGI, please contact me (407/886-2925; LNS-OAS@att.net) so that time and space may be allotted and bid sheets may be made prior to the meeting. For all donations, please describe the item(s), and suggest a minimum bid price and an approximate retail price (to ensure proper sales tax treatment and maximum fundraising potential). **Deadline for notification is Sunday, June 13th** since the meeting is June 17th.

Judging from experience, two or three lower priced contributions might receive more bids than a larger, more expensive item (e.g. if you bake cookies, pack 6 of them into a bag with a fair minimum price rather than putting 12 cookies in one package at double the minimum price). We can discuss your options when you contact me.

Since the June dinner/auction/program is a busy, jam-packed evening, we need several volunteers to help us throughout the silent auction (it's not hard work, just a lot of it in a few hours — checking items in, 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). 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 — solicit a donation(s) or make, bake or grow a donation; come prepared to bid (cash or checks; no credit or debit cards); or help; or all of the above. See you at the potluck/auction!!

Loretta Satterthwaite

Thanks for Your Efforts!

We would like to thank the 2009–2010 members for their continued support of the Orange Audubon Society (OAS). Since OAS is an all-volunteer organization, we can only achieve what our volunteers are able to accomplish. For fear of omitting someone's name, we will not attempt to list everyone's names, but your special talents have been appreciated and have not gone unnoticed throughout this past year and we thank each of you for the role you have played for OAS — whether it be teaching an ID class, visiting an elementary school class, helping with our merchandise sales at our outreach events, building our nest boxes, making contributions for our occasional 'drawings' or any of the myriad of other things that goes into a successful activity year.

Our board members are a special group of dedicated individuals who head our committees and set aside time to attend at least 9 board meetings throughout the activity year. However, attendance at the board meetings is the tip of the iceberg. There is much 'behind-the-scenes' activity that must be accomplished to ensure a successful year for OAS. We have had some outstanding contributions by many of our board members and we would like to thank each of you for your contributions.

We appreciate your support over the many years that we have served the chapter and we know that you'll continue to support next year's officers and board members as they carry the banner forward. Thanks again to everyone.

Bob Stamps and Loretta Satterthwaite

Summer Reading Fun - Three Coyotes

Ever since the critically endangered Red Wolf (*Canis lupus rufus*) was eliminated from Florida due to disease, habitat loss and aggressive predator control, Coyotes (*Canis latrans*) have been increasingly prevalent in central Florida. The fact that Coyotes are thriving, not the fact that the Red Wolf has been almost exterminated, apparently has some positive aspects. In Caroline Fraser's book, "Rewilding the World: Dispatches from the Conservation Revolution", she cites studies that found that native bird populations were more robust in areas where the Coyotes were present than elsewhere. Why? you ask. Because the Coyotes were eating one of the major predators of birds — cats, an introduced non-native carnivore. Another engaging book about Coyotes is "The Daily Coyote: A Story of Love, Survival, and Trust in the Wilds of Wyoming" by Shreve Stockton. This is an account of Stockton raising a Coyote pup whose parents had been shot. This book is not about having a Coyote as a pet but depicts her life living with a wild animal. A third book, "Coyote at the Kitchen Door: Living with Wildlife in Suburbia", highlights the negative effects we humans are having on wild animals. Future Orange Audubon Society programs will

address the issues of living with wildlife in an increasingly urban state. Enjoy your summer and hope to see you at our meetings this fall.

Bob Stamps

Fort DeSoto Trip Report

Fort DeSoto Park on April 18th, was the last of the limited field trips until the fall and, unlike most years, it was a day trip. With a low of only 67 species, the trip epitomized the slow migration this spring; but it wasn't without some good birds! Greater Scaup and a Male Ruddy Duck on the Terra Verde Ponds, copulating Sandwich Terns on the beach, many Common Tern (which aren't all that common on shore in Florida), the Long-Billed Curlew graced us with his presence and the Great Horned Owl provided some great photos. The main purpose of the trip, to find warblers, didn't work out so well with a whopping eight species. The highlight was a Worm-Eating Warbler at East Beach Woods. Even with the slow day, many people added lifers and we all went home happy.

Gallus Quigley, Field Trip Chair

Thanks for the beautiful binocs!!

Featured Silent Auction Donation Contributed by
Mosquito Creek Outdoors, Apopka & owners
Paul & Diane Faircloth

Swarovski EL 8x32 WB Binoculars

100% waterproof; with roof prism; field of view: 420 ft at 1,000 yds;
close focus distance: 6.6 ft

List: \$2088 Best current price: \$1,780-\$1,880

Bring your cash or checkbook (no debit or credit
cards) and be prepared to take home these binoculars
at a great price!

Feast on These Silent Auction Items

Orange Audubon Society gratefully acknowledges donors who, at press time, have pledged to make contributions for the silent auction and door prizes on June 17th. As other donations are received we hope to be able to update a list on our website: www.orangeaudubonfl.org. As always, there will be contributions that will be received too late to be listed, so plan to be surprised at the event and bring your cash or checkbook, no credit or debit cards! Donations to-date include:

- *Atlas/Wild Cotton* – nature tote bags and t-shirts (various designs and sizes)
- *Bamboo Trading Company* – “I Care About – The Planet, The Dolphins, The Pandas, The Penguins, The Polar Bears, and The Tigers” bracelets (\$7 value each) [Thanks to OAS member & Bamboo Trading Company employee Lucy Garman for this contribution]
- *Biosphere, Winter Garden* – \$50 Gift Certificate for plants or other merchandise
- *Center for Birds of Prey* – Behind-the-scenes tour of the Center
- *Dexter's Restaurants* – 2 gift cards for \$75 honored at Thornton Park, Winter Park and Lake Mary locations
- *Driftwood Gardens, Inc. and owners Bill and Rachel Tippit* – Bromeliad planter centerpieces
- *Essence Salon & Day Spa, Winter Park, FL and owner Ana Yebba* – Gift certificate for shampoo, cut, style and dry (\$55 value)
- *Gatorland* – 2 Photographer’s annual passes (\$99.99 + tax each)
- *Deborah Green, author and OAS 2nd vice president,* – two books: *Paradise Preserved - Natural History Explorations (Canaveral National Seashore and Merritt Island NWR)* and *Watching Wildlife in the Wekiva River Basin*
- *Milton Heiberg, world renowned nature photographer and OAS board member* – three mounted photographs: Misty Sunrise/Orlando Wetlands and Bald Eagle in Cypress/Lake Rose, Orlando [each 13 x 19; retail value \$200 each]; Black-capped Night Heron/Corkscrew Swamp [8.5 x 11; retail value \$100]
- *HoneyBaked Ham* – 50 HoneyBaked Premiere Cards (discount savings over \$100 with various purchases)
- *Mary Keim & Randy Snyder, OAS board members,* – “The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior” (new) illustrated by David Allen Sibley (list \$39.95; retail value ~\$26)
- *Lakota Wellness, Ocoee* – Two Gift Certificates (\$75 and \$35 value) for spa treatments
- *Mosquito Creek Outdoors, Apopka (owners and OAS members Paul and Diane Faircloth)* – Swarovski EL 8x32 WB binoculars (list-\$2,088; retail value-\$1,780–\$1,880)
- *Richard Poole and Christine Brown* – nest boxes and plants for wildlife: 3 Firebushes, 1 Coral Bean (four-in. pots); Cypress, Fackahatchee Grass and Cabbage Palm (six-in. pots)
- *Dorothy (Dottie) Ward* – Birds Choice Waters Edge 3-floor, 6-suites Purple Martin House with Crescent Holes, Model PMW3 (List \$140; web price \$128.80), pole not included
- *Wild Birds Unlimited, Winter Springs (owners Janey & Allan Jahner)* – ‘Basic Pole Set’ (cinnamon finish) with squirrel baffle (retail value over \$100)
- *Wild Birds Unlimited, Winter Springs (owners Janey & Allan Jahner)* – various items for outdoor enthusiasts of all ages
- *Wildscape Images, Orlando – Slash Pine Sunrise, matted, unframed landscape print by award-winning owner/photographer Robert J. Amoruso*

Some restrictions may 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 17th 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 and Loretta Satterthwaite

**Orange Audubon Society
Board of Directors 2009-2010**

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Calendar of Events

June 12, 2010 - Saturday
 Yarborough Tract, Little-Big
 Econ State Forest bird survey
 (tentative)—June 12, July 10,
 Aug. 14, Sept. 18. Contact
 Lorne Malo at 407/659-4853
 (work), 407/349-2536 (home),
 lmalo@sjrwmd.com, or
 lornemalo@bellsouth.net

June 12, 2010 - Saturday
 Nature Hike at PEAR Park, 8
 a.m.-10 a.m. with Gallus
 Quigley. www.lakecountyfl.gov

June 17, 2010 - Thursday
 OAS Potluck dinner/silent
 auction/Chertok photo contest
 awards event at Leu Gardens
 6 p.m. start time.

June 18, 2010 - Friday
 Bird Survey at Ferndale
 Preserve, 7 a.m.-10 a.m., also
 July 10th, Aug. 27. Gallus,
 www.lakecountyfl.gov

July 17, 2010 - Saturday
 Nature Hike at PEAR Park
 from 8 a.m.-10 a.m., Gallus,
 www.lakecountyfl.gov

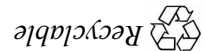
Aug. 14, 2010 - Saturday
 Bird and Butterfly survey,
 PEAR Park, 7 a.m.-11 a.m.
 Gallus, www.lakecountyfl.gov

Aug. 21, 2010 - Saturday
 Plant and Nature Hike at Pine
 Forest, www.lakecountyfl.gov

Aug. 28, 2010 - Hike at
 Haynes Creek Preserve,
 Gallus, www.lakecountyfl.gov

Wildlife surveys for June, July, August 2010

Charles H. Bronson State Forest - Lee Tract butterfly surveys – contact Randy Snyder or Mary Keim at 407/851-5416 - home or rsnyder11@cfl.rr.com. Emerald Marsh Conservation Area bird surveys – contact John Stenberg at 386/329-4822 or jstenberg@sjrwmd.com. Ferndale Preserve quarterly bird surveys – contact Gallus Quigley, Jr. at 352/516-8512 or gquigley@lakecountyfl.gov or gallusq@cfl.rr.com. Ponce Inlet bird surveys – contact Stacey Bell at 386/238-4716 or sbell@co.volusia.fl.us – weekdays only; boat seating is limited. Orange Co. Watershed Action Volunteer (WAV) activities – contact Carrie Mohanna at wavorange@sjrwmd.com). Seminole Co. Watershed Action Volunteer (WAV) activities – contact Natalae Wilson at 407/665-2457 or wavsem@seminolecountyfl.gov). Seminole Co. Environmental Studies Center activities – contact Pat Burkett at Friends@EnvironmentalStudiesCenter.org or www.EnvironmentalStudiesCenter.org.



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