



*"The Voice of Conservation in Central Florida"*

# OASis

*Orange Audubon Society*

*A Chapter of National and Florida Audubon Societies*



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## **November Field Trip**

On Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, OAS will visit Hal Scott Regional Preserve and Park. This 9,515-acre property in east Orange County, straddles the Econlockhatchee River. We will hike about four miles in about four hours through pine flatwoods and riverine swamp. There are no restroom facilities. For more information about the property, see: <http://www.sjrwmd.com/recreationguide/halscott/index.html>

Meet at 7:30 AM in the back parking lot of Burger King on SR 50 just east of Alafaya Trail. Bring plenty to drink, sun protection, insect protection, birding gear, and lunch (for after the hike). Please join us. No registration is required. If you have questions about our trip, contact us at [rsnyder11@cfl.rr.com](mailto:rsnyder11@cfl.rr.com) or 407/851-5416.

Mary Keim and Randy Snyder  
Field Trip Committee

## **Finished Shopping for the Holidays?**

Me either! Orange Audubon Society (OAS) will be selling its nature-oriented merchandise (adult and children t-shirts, tote bags, nest boxes, signs, mugs, books, etc.) at the November meeting. We will be set-up and selling no later than 6:30 PM, so come early, browse and buy! OAS cannot accept plastic (debit or credit), so bring cash or your checkbook. If you can arrive early and help, please contact me (407/886-2925; [LNS-oas@att.net](mailto:LNS-oas@att.net)). Thanks.

Loretta Satterthwaite

## **This Month's Program:**

Nov.18, 2010, 7:00 PM

## **Colonial Waterbird Conservation in Florida by Ann Paul**

Some of Florida's best-known and most charismatic birds, as well as some of our rarest species, nest in colonies. Brown Pelicans, Roseate Spoonbills, White and Glossy Ibis, the herons and egrets, and the Wood Storks all nest colonially. The beach-nesting terns, gulls, and skimmers, also nest colonially. Although nesting in a colony gives advantages to the birds, it presents challenges for their conservation.

For our November 18 program, Ann Paul will explain how behavior and morphology of these species affects their reproduction and population levels. Ann, who is the Tampa Bay Regional Coordinator at the Florida Coastal Islands Sanctuaries Program for Audubon of Florida, will inform us on what Audubon and its conservation partners are doing to ensure a future for these birds.

Orange Audubon Society programs are free and no reservations are necessary. Programs are held in the Camellia Room of Leu Gardens, 1920 N. Forest Avenue, Orlando (for directions call 407/246-2620).

Deborah Green, Program Coordinator

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

at 7 PM in the Camellia Room at:

Harry P. Leu Garden,

1920 North Forest Avenue  
Orlando, FL 32803-1537.

For directions call: 407-246-2620

### 2-Hour 'Workday' at Genius Drive Nature Preserve

The Genius Drive Nature Preserve was the subject of an ecological restoration that began ~2003. Since 2006 Orange Audubon Society has partnered with Rollins College and the Preserve's owner, the Elizabeth Morse Genius Foundation, by conducting 'workdays' to help maintain restored areas.

The next workday is Sunday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> from 9-11 AM; it entails gardening, a/k/a weeding and mulching, in the restored cedar grove near Lake Mizell.

To help, contact Teresa: 407/644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl.rr.com. Further details provided the week before. Please see related Field Trip article in this *OASis* issue.

### Birds of Prey Identification Class

The second of three Birds of Prey ID field trips will be from 8:00–1:00 on Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Lake Apopka Restoration Area, Lust Rd. entrance. There is no participant limit and the class is free; however, contributions to Orange Audubon Society are always appreciated. For details, contact Gallus at 407/242-7833 or gallusq@cfl.rr.com.

### Get involved! Join a committee!

The **Publicity committee** is looking for help. If you have or know contacts in the media (printed or otherwise) please help get the word out. Contact: Danielle at dponsolle@cfl.rr.com

### Help Us Go Green and Save Some Trees!

If you are willing to forego a paper copy of our *OASis* newsletter and just receive an email announcement when each issue is available on-line, please send your email to Mike Daley at miked531@bellsouth.net. You will receive an email alert. Not only will this save trees and other resources, but it will save your chapter money that can go towards conservation and education activities. Thank you.

### October Field Trip Report

Nineteen people attended the hike at P.E.A.R. (Palatlahaha Environmental and Agricultural Reserve) Park in Leesburg on October 30<sup>th</sup>. It was a beautiful, somewhat cooler day, and we identified 38 species. Highlights included: the Bay-breasted, Yellow-throated and Black-and-white Warblers.

Gallus Quigley, Field Trip Chair

### Genius Drive Nature Preserve Field Trips

Reservations are required for two guided field trips to the 48± acre Genius Drive Nature Preserve in Winter Park on December 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 8 am ~ Noon. These are walking field trips (FT) that will be concurrent with bird surveys and led by survey leader and preeminent birder, Bruce Anderson.

In just three years surveyors have documented 158 bird species on the Preserve, which is also rich in 19<sup>th</sup> century history. The citrus groves and meandering Genius Drive with its hedges of shell ginger and Turk's cap were planted and constructed by Charles Hosmer Morse, the museum's namesake. The original Wind Song estate built in 1936 by Elizabeth Morse Genius still looks across Lake Virginia to Rollins College. A slice of romantic Old Florida has survived, as have Wind Song's infamous Peacocks.

You must be a current Orange Audubon Society member or active Preserve workday volunteer to attend and FTs are limited to 20 people each date. More details provided when you register by contacting Teresa (mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or 407/644-0796). See related Workday article in previous column.

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

<http://www.orangeaudubonfl.org>

## Contributions for December Program due November 18

For our second annual December **Members Favorite Wildlife Viewing Spots** program, are you ready to share some of your favorite spots? Here's your opportunity, but the deadline is the November meeting. Put together a short Powerpoint presentation that should last no longer than 5 minutes (allow another 5 minutes for questions). Suggested maximum number of slides is 20. Don't use powerpoint? Someone on the program committee will put your 20 digital slides into powerpoint format. All programs, whether complete powerpoints or 20 slides, must be turned in by the November meeting. Remember, to allow more people to participate, pick out just your best slides and highlights of the place profiled. If any questions, contact Deborah Green at 407/637-2525 or [sabalpress@mac.com](mailto:sabalpress@mac.com).

## Wekiva Parkway Update

Final public hearings for the PD&E study portion of the Wekiva Parkway project were held in Orange, Lake and Seminole counties during the last week of October. After consideration of all comments that are received during the comment period (all comments must be postmarked or emailed no later than Nov. 8th to be considered), FDOT and the Expressway Authority will recommend a 'Locally Preferred Alternative' to the Florida Highway Authority for their approval. If all goes well with the remainder of the project design, etc., the earliest that property acquisition would begin would be 2015.

The Wekiva Parkway and Protection Act was enacted in 2004, since then there has been a great deal of cooperation by almost everyone involved and we should thank them—and move ahead as the project is now designed. It addresses the transportation problem as required by the Act, but does it in the most environmentally protective way possible. Visit <http://www.expresswayauthority.com> to review the plans and make your comments to [construction@oocea.com](mailto:construction@oocea.com).

Loretta Satterthwaite, Conservation Committee

## Limited Edition Bird Banding Report

The day started slowly, however five members and I watched Andrew Boyle at the Wekiva Basin Banding Station band a female American Redstart, Ovenbird, Brown Thrasher, Gray Catbird and an immature male Common Yellowthroat. We also saw a female Scarlet Tanager, Yellow-throated and

Blackpoll Warblers, and heard Indigo Buntings but had a hard time finding them. It was an enjoyable trip even with the slow birding, which seems to be the case this fall in Central Florida.

Gallus Quigley, Field Trip Chair

## Audubon Adventures for the Classroom

Audubon's award-winning environmental education program about the natural world and how to protect it can be implemented in any classroom or after-school program; all it takes is an interest in exploring, learning about, and enjoying the natural world around you. *Audubon Adventures* helps form positive attitudes about nature and supports teachers with instructional content aligned with national standards for Social Studies, Civics, Science, and Language Arts. The *Audubon Adventures* Classroom Resource Kits contain student handouts, a teacher's guide and suggested hands-on activities, as well as many other useful items, and are packed with exciting resources to bring science to life in any classroom.

The classroom edition of *Audubon Adventures* is designed for grades 3–5, but may be used in other classes if desired. The title of the 2010–11 kit is **Wildlife on the Move**, a four-part exploration of migrating animals. **Wildlife on the Move** includes four editions:

1. Amazing journeys and life cycles of migrating birds of the Americas;
2. Monarch butterfly and dragonfly migration;
3. Whales and sea turtles and their migratory seasons; and
4. Action for Planet Earth focusing on ways that young people can make valuable contributions to conservation in their community.

Although we're two months into the school year, it's not too late to incorporate this helpful information into your classroom or the classroom of your child, grandchild or children in general. If you know of a teacher that might be able to use this program, please contact that teacher to be sure it will be utilized, then provide Loretta Leda ([lorettalynn@mac.com](mailto:lorettalynn@mac.com)), Education Chair of Orange Audubon Society (OAS), with the name and mailing address of the school, the name of the teacher, and the number of students in the class. OAS will be happy to provide *Audubon Adventures* to any Central Florida classroom interested in using it.



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**Calendar of Events**

**Nov. 6–7, 2010 - Saturday/  
Sunday**

Lake Eola Fiesta in the Park  
10:00–5:00, see page 4

**Nov. 13, 2010 - Saturday**

Yarborough Tract, Little-Big  
Econ State Forest bird survey,  
see below for details.

**Nov. 18, 2010 - Thursday**

Monthly membership meeting  
& OAS' nature merchandise  
'shop', 6:30–7:00 before OAS'  
general meeting (no plastic  
accepted, see page 1)

**Nov. 20, 2010 - Saturday**

Hal Scott Regional Preserve &  
Park, Field Trip, details on  
page 1

**Nov. 27, 2010 - Saturday**

Charles H. Bronson State  
Forest butterfly survey, see  
below for details.

**Dec. 5, 2010 - Sunday**

9-11 AM, Genius Workday,  
Teresa: 407-644-0796 or  
mwilliams@cfl.rr.com

**Dec. 5, 2010 - Sunday**

Birds of Prey ID, Lake Apopka  
Restoration Area, Lust Rd.  
8:00–1:00, Contact Gallus  
(gallusq@cfl.rr.com or  
407/242-7833)

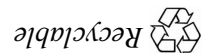
**Dec. 11 & 12, 2010**

Genius Drive Preserve Field  
Trip - 8 AM - 12 PM, details on  
page 2

For **Christmas Bird Count**  
information, visit: [http://  
www.fosbirds.org/Events/CBC/  
cbcfos%202010-2011.htm](http://www.fosbirds.org/Events/CBC/cbcfos%202010-2011.htm)

**Wildlife Surveys for November & December 2010**

**Yarborough Tract, Little-Big Econ State Forest** bird survey (tentative) – Nov. 13, and Dec. 11th. Contact me at 407/659-4853 (work), 407/349-2536 (home), lmalo@sjrwmd.com, or lornemalo@bellsouth.net. **Ferndale Preserve** quarterly bird surveys – contact Gallus Quigley, Jr. at 352/516-8512 or gquigley@lakecountyfl.gov or gallusq@cfl.rr.com. **Charles H. Bronson State Forest** (Turkey Creek Tract) butterfly surveys – Nov. 27 - contact Randy Snyder at 407/851-5416 (home) or rsnyder11@cfl.rr.com.



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