



OASis



Orange Audubon Society
A Chapter of National and Florida Audubon Societies

Vol. 47

October 2011

Issue No. 2

Field Trip - Saturday October 22nd Mead Garden

Mead Botanical Garden is a fall migration hot spot with as many as 23 warbler species reported there in a fall season. Located in the heart of Winter Park, this 55 acre gem also offers food, water, shelter and a place to rest as they travel to their wintering homes. Located at 1300 South Denning Dr. Winter Park, FL 32789. @ South Denning Dr. and Garden Dr.

We will meet in the parking area at 7:45 a.m. near the restrooms straight in on the entrance road. We will leave the parking area at 8:00 a.m. covering the park at a casual birding pace lasting 2 to 3 hours. Grab your binoculars, drinks and snacks for this great birding field trip. If you have questions about the trip, call Lori Mathis at 407-579-3795 or lopiandjerry@cfl.rr.com.

Limited Edition Field Trip - Sunday Oct. 23rd Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge

This trip is limited to 15 people and has a cost of \$10 per person per trip for members and \$15 per person for non-members. Reservations are required and will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis the week prior to the trip. For trip questions or reservations call Gallus Quigley at 407-242-7833.

OAS Board Vacancies

We're looking for a few good men or women to fill three vacancies on the Orange Audubon Society Board of Directors. Serving on the Board of OAS is a wonderful way to contribute and help "The Voice of Conservation in Central Florida." Consider being a part of making our voice stronger. If interested, contact Cynthia Gosiewski at cgosiewski@Rollins.edu or 407-426-8982.

This Month's Program: Oct. 20th @ 7:00 p.m. Mysterious Lives of Snakes in Florida Gardens...Revealed by Chris Stalder

Would you like to know about some common snakes that you may encounter in Central Florida? Learn what precautions you should take when exploring outdoors where snakes may be present, and what measures to take should you accidentally become the recipient of a bite? To answer these questions, Orange Audubon is pleased to have agronomist, beekeeper and reptile expert Chris Stalder as our October speaker. We will be able to view some non-venomous local species as up close and personal as our comfort level allows. We will also become familiar with our four local venomous species and learn about some of the important medical applications and uses for snake venoms.

Children especially are welcome as guests at what promises to be a fascinating program. 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, 2nd Vice President

**Orange Audubon Society meetings & programs
are free & no reservations are necessary.
Programs are held the 3rd Thursday of every
month (September - June)
at 7 p.m. in the Camellia Room at:
Harry P. Leu Gardens
1920 North Forest Avenue
Orlando, FL 32803-1537.
For directions call: 407-246-2620**

2011–2012 Budget

Orange Audubon Society’s board of directors approved the following 2011–2012 budget, which is consistent with OAS’ strategic financial goals of achieving a balanced budget and increasing restricted funds for a nature education center. Requests for additional financial information should be directed to Teresa Williams, Treasurer: 407-644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl.rr.com.

Orange Audubon Society Budget for the Year Ending June 30, 2012	
Income:	
Contributions	\$ 10,344
Fund raising/outreach events	4,200
Investment earnings (realized and unrealized, net)	910
Membership dues	3,744
Educational classes and programs	3,860
Other fund raising	3,635
Total income	26,693
Expenditures:	
Conservation	1,230
Education programs	6,373
Fund raising/outreach events	2,500
Membership	25
Newsletters and annual brochure	8,355
Insurance	2,750
Office and general	3,260
Other fund raising	1,200
Sanctuary maintenance	1,000
Total expenditures	26,693
Change in net assets (see analysis)	\$ -

Analysis of Change in Net Assets by Fund Type	
Increases:	
CNPC endowed/restricted funds	\$ 1,410
Nature education center restricted funds	2,500
Decreases:	
Education restricted funds	(613)
Holiday Highlands restricted funds	(1,000)
Unrestricted funds	(2,297)
Change in net assets	\$ -

Fall 2011 Beginners’ Bird Watching Class Offered

Orange Audubon Society’s (OAS) former board member Bob Sanders will teach a fall 2011 Beginners’ Bird Watching Class (BBWC). Bob began OAS’ successful Limited Edition field trips and Birds of Prey ID Classes while serving on the board; he has taught for the Elderhostel/Exploritas program "Beautiful Birds of Central Florida" and is an independent birding guide who has escorted US, Canadian and European visitors to some of Central Florida’s best birding spots.

Enroll in the class to learn new skills or sharpen your existing ability to name bird species using sight, sound, behavior or a combination of these and other clues. The course includes a classroom session October 22nd at Orlando Wetlands Park (with mini-field trip in the park) and 2 field sessions on October 29th and November 5th; all sessions are 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Field session locales will be announced at the first class. Goals of the course are to increase knowledge and awareness of North American bird species; teach bird ID techniques, basic birding principles, bird habitat and anatomy; provide binocular basics and tips on using field guides and checklists; and discuss birding ethics.

Registration is required and class is limited to 20 students. Total cost for all three sessions is \$30 for Audubon members, \$45 for non-members and \$10 for children through age 12 with a registered adult, payable by check or money order to Orange Audubon Society. Non-members can join when registering and pay \$50, which includes BBWC registration (member price \$30) plus introductory 3-way annual membership in OAS, National Audubon Society and Audubon of Florida (\$20 promotional rate). Such new memberships *must be paid directly to OAS as prescribed herein*. Visit www.orangeaudubonfl.org for a membership application.

To reserve a space in OAS’ Beginners’ Bird ID Class, contact Teresa at 407-644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl.rr.com. For questions about the class, contact Bob at 407-454-0542.

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>

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

OAS' 2012 Nature Photo Contest

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) announces its 24th Annual Kit & Sidney Chertok Nature Photography Contest. There are three categories: Amateur—for new and less experienced photographers; Advanced—for experienced nature photographers; and Youth—for participants age 17 and younger.

The theme for all categories, *Florida's Native Nature*, allows participants to explore and photograph the amazing native animals, plants, landscapes and habitats of Florida. In this Florida native nature contest, images cannot show humans, human-made structures or artifacts, or discernable non-native (to Florida) fauna and/or flora, which is consistent with contest objectives of promoting interest and concern for preserving Florida's native wildlife and wild places and encouraging nature photography.

There are *two* submission deadlines. The **final deadline** for all entries (*received by date*) is May 17, 2012. Images may also be entered by the **optional early deadline** of April 19, 2012 (*received by date*) for a free pre-screening and the opportunity for early-bird participants to replace ineligible images free, subject to the contest's final deadline and all other rules.

Official application forms containing complete contest rules and regulations and further category clarification will be available soon at future OAS meetings and/or Colonial Photo and Hobby, 634 N. Mills Avenue, Orlando, FL, or by downloading and printing the 2012 form (*.pdf file) from OAS' website: www.orangeaudubonfl.org using free Adobe Acrobat Reader. For additional information, contact: 407-644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl.rr.com.
Teresa Williams, OASCNPC Chair

Central Florida Butterfly Identification Workshop

Orange Audubon Society is offering a fall Butterfly Identification Workshop. The 8-hour workshop is on Saturday, Oct. 15th, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with a short lunch break; and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The workshop involves slide presentations, field observation and identification of butterflies at Orlando Wetlands Park (OWP) and nearby Seminole Ranch Conservation Area in east Orange County. Slide presentations will be held in the OWP Education Center on Wheeler Road in Christmas, FL.

Recommended field guide is *Butterflies through Binoculars: Florida* by Glassberg, Minno, and Calhoun, 2000, Oxford. Close-focusing binoculars are helpful and will be available for use during the workshop. Instructors are Orange Audubon members Randy Snyder and Mary Keim. If you have questions about workshop content, call or e-mail Randy and Mary (407-851-5416, rsnyder11@cfl.rr.com). Participants should bring drink, lunch and wear field attire.

Registration is required. Cost is \$25 for Audubon members; \$40 for nonmembers; and \$10 for children 12 or younger (must be accompanied by a registered adult), payable by check or money order to Orange Audubon Society. Non-members can join when registering and pay \$45, which includes butterfly workshop registration (member price \$25) plus introductory 3-way annual membership in the Orange, National and Florida Audubon Societies (\$20 promotional rate). Visit www.orangeaudubonfl.org for a membership application.

The workshop is limited to 16 students. To reserve a space, contact Teresa Williams at mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or 407-644-0796.

OAS at Oakland Heritage Festival

Again this year, Orange Audubon Society (OAS) will participate in the Oakland Heritage Festival at Speer Park in Oakland on Oct. 29th. Hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Nature merchandise (adult and youth t-shirts, tote bags, signs, mugs and nest boxes) will be available as part of our fundraising efforts. If you could lend a hand in this effort, please stop by. We could also use help setting up for the event (8:00 a.m.) and putting things away at the end of the day.

Loretta Satterthwaite, LNS-oas@att.net

IT'S FIESTA TIME!! — PLEASE HELP

Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) annual participation in the Lake Eola Fiesta in the Park occurs on Nov. 5th and 6th, with preparatory set-up on Friday evening Nov. 4th starting at approximately 5:00 PM. Friday evening will consist of helping to set up the tent, tables, etc. Saturday and Sunday (8:00-6:00 each day) mainly consists of setting up and taking down of merchandise and, the fun part helping to sell merchandise and talking to people about OAS. Usually, it is easiest to stay for 3-4 hours, but if you only have two hours to volunteer, please do so. We need 3 or 4 people for each of the days, just for our sales activities. If you volunteer early, you can have your choice of day and time of day. If by some extraordinary luck, we were to have enough volunteers, or volunteers who *only* wish to work with children, OAS could offer our kids art table; however, unless we have enough volunteers, we will not be able to offer this fun activity.

This is OAS's biggest outreach event directed beyond our membership and we *really* do need your help. Please contact Loretta [LNS-oas@att.net or 407-886-2925 (eve.)] or Teresa [mwilliam@cfl.rr.com or 407-644-0796 (eve.)] to volunteer or if you have questions. Please call soon and then mark your calendar and commit to help OAS meet our financial goals and reach out for new members. Thank you.

Loretta Satterthwaite and Teresa Williams

Holiday Shopping Opportunities at OAS November Meeting

Save some of your holiday shopping for November 17th when Orange Audubon Society (OAS) will provide **nature-oriented merchandise** (adult and youth t-shirts, nest boxes, tote bags, signs, mugs and books) for your holiday shopping needs at our meeting at Harry P. Leu Gardens. If you wish to purchase items, please try to arrive about 6:30 so you don't miss any of the exciting program on Hummingbirds. If you can help at our merchandise tables, please contact Loretta [LNS-OAS@att.net or 407-886-2925 (p.m.)] or Teresa [mwilliam@cfl.rr.com or 407-644-0796 (p.m.)] to volunteer.

If you can't wait until the 17th to do your nature shopping, come to OAS's sales booth at the Oakland Heritage Festival on Oct. 29th or Lake Eola on Nov. 5th or 6th (see articles in this newsletter).

Loretta Satterthwaite and Teresa Williams

2011 Audubon Assembly in Lake Mary, Florida on October 14 and 15, 2011

The 2011 Audubon Assembly offers you the opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals, to participate in forming Audubon's 2012 conservation priorities, to join exciting field trips, and to learn new conservation skills. Most of all, the 2011 Assembly is the time and place to chart your course to take action for Florida's Special Places. It is a time of discovery, reflection, celebration and planning for our next challenges.

For more information and to register online go to www.audubonoffloridanews.org. (**To register by mail**, contact Jonathan Webber at 850-222-2473 or jwebber@audubon.org). We hope to see you there!

Genius Drive Nature Preserve Field Trip

Reservations are required for a guided field trip to the 48± acre Genius Drive Nature Preserve in Winter Park on Dec. 10th (tentative) 8 AM ~ Noon. This walking field trip (FT) will be concurrent with bird surveys and led by survey leader and preeminent birder, Bruce Anderson. In just three years surveyors have documented 165 bird species on the Preserve, which is also rich in 19th century history.

You must be a current Orange Audubon Society member or active Preserve workday volunteer to attend and FTs are limited to 20 people. More details provided when you register with Teresa (mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or 407-644-0796).

Orange County Homeowner Energy Efficiency Program by Deborah Green, OAS Climate Change Chair

OCHEEP! is the Orange County Homeowner Energy Efficiency Program that combines education and incentives to help residents lower their energy bills and improve their homes, while stimulating the economy. Started in April 2010, the program uses federal stimulus funding for residential energy efficiency rebates. Rebate amounts for eligible expenditures range from \$50 to \$700 and vary by technology. Rebates are available on a first-come, first-served basis until the program's funding is exhausted. Improvements made to new homes are not eligible.

The OCHEEP! program targets self-organized groups of homeowners. You are required to attend an OCHEEP! workshop to participate because this is primarily an educational program, not a typical rebate program. The goal of OCHEEP! is to bring people together to learn about energy efficiency in a comfortable, familiar setting. If you are an Orange County homeowner, and ten or more people who belong to your group live in homes they own in Orange County, your group can participate, and OCHEEP! will bring the workshop to you.

One of the requirements for OCHEEP! rebates is to arrange for a Class I energy rating. This type of audit must be conducted by a professionally trained and certified energy rater who will help identify the best energy efficiency options for your home. Most of the rebates require hiring a licensed contractor to do the work. The program aims to help people get back to work and give contractors the opportunity to learn new skills to help their business. A few of the eligible energy efficiency upgrades do not require hiring a licensed contractor.

The following improvements are generally eligible for rebates, provided that specific energy-saving criteria are met: energy audits; central air-conditioners; heat pumps; water heaters; windows; insulation (for attics, floor and concrete blocks); radiant barriers; attic ventilation (roof and soffit venting, and solar fans); reflective roofs; duct sealing and repairs; skylights; programmable thermostats, whole-house energy monitors; window film or solar screens; door and window sealing with caulk and weather stripping; ceiling fans; refrigerators, and LED lamps. Rebates are also available for photovoltaic (PV) systems two kilowatts or greater in capacity, and for solar water heaters that replace electric water heaters.

For further information, contact the OCHEEP! Coordinator by phone: 407-836-1400 or e-mail: ocheep@ocfl.net. More information is available at <http://www.ocfl.net/ocheep>.

If you are interested in organizing a workshop and have a few friends interested but could use assistance from Orange Audubon, please contact me at sabalpress@mac.com.

Wildlife Surveys

- Savage Christmas Creek Preserve, Pine Lily Preserve, Long Branch Preserve and Hal Scott Regional Preserve and Park (north portion) butterfly survey. For more information contact Randy Snyder or Mary Keim at 407-851-5416 or rsnyder11@cfl.rr.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.

Cancellation of October 29 Mead Bird Walk

The October 29 Mead Bird Walk is cancelled due the St Mary Magdeline FunRun Benefit for Haiti which will begin and end in Mead Botanical Garden that morning. *Dick Smith, OAS- Mead Liaison, 407-257-7361*

**Orange Audubon Society
Board of Directors 2011-2012**

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Danielle Ponsolle (14) dponsolle@cfl.rr.com

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Loretta Satterthwaite (12) 407-886-2925

Dominique Shimizu (13) 407-287-4078

Randy Snyder (14) 407-851-5416

Bob Stamps (12) 407-886-2925

Calendar of Events

OAS EVENTS

Field Trip on October 22, 2011, Mead Garden, Winter Park, Florida. For questions call Lori Mathis at 407-579-3795.

Limited Edition Field Trip on October 23, 2011, Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. For trip reservations call Gallus Quigley at 407-242-7833.

Field Trip on November 19, 2011, Lake Apopka Restoration Area, Lake Apopka, FL. For questions call Bob Sanders at 407-454-0542.

Limited Edition Field Trip on November 26, 2011, Smyrna Dunes Park, New Smyrna Beach, FL. For trip reservations call Bob Sanders at 407-454-0542.

SPECIAL EVENTS

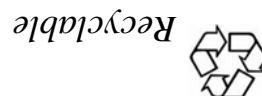
Audubon Assembly, Lake Mary, FL on Oct 14-15, 2011 407-539-5700
www.audubonofflorida.org

Oakland Heritage Festival, Oakland on Oct 29, 2011 407-886-2925

Lake Eola Fiesta in the Park, Downtown Orlando on Nov 5-6, 2011 407-644-0796

Old Florida Festival, Apopka, FL on Feb 10-12, 2012 407-886-2925

Great Backyard Bird Count, Feb 17-20, 2012 (www.birdsource.org/gbbc).



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