



OASis

Orange Audubon Society
A Chapter of National and Florida Audubon Societies



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Field Trip - Saturday November 19th Lake Apopka North Shore Restoration Area

Lake Apopka, formerly the second largest lake in Florida and a favorite bass-fishing and recreation site, once attracted both tourists and shorebirds. Starting in the early 1940s, parts of the lake's northern shore were diked off and drained for farming. This and other activities ultimately polluted Lake Apopka with excess nutrients. Fifty years later the area surrounding the now 3rd largest lake in Florida was purchased by the state and federal governments and is now managed by the St. Johns River Water Management District. Shallow flooding of the fertile fields encourages a great diversity of species. Large numbers of migratory shorebirds, wintering waterfowl and shorebirds, and resident wading birds, as well as numerous Neotropical migrant species in the remaining forest fragments can be seen in the area. During the 1998 Christmas bird count 173 species were observed, the highest species count ever for an inland site in the U.S.

We will meet at the Lust Road entrance (off South Binion Road, aka CR437, in Apopka) at 7:45 a.m. — there is road construction in the area, so please allow extra time for possible delays. This will be a driving (carpooled) trip with limited facilities. Bring drinks, sunscreen, hat, insect repellent, binoculars and scopes if desired. We will plan to finish about noon; Magnolia Park is close by if anyone wishes to bring a lunch for after the trip. Contact Bob or Loretta at 407-886-2925 or LNS-OAS@att.net with any questions. Trip day phones: 407-421-9437 or 407-718-2489.

This Month's Program: Nov. 17th @ 7 p.m. Hummingbirds: What is Learned from Banding Studies by Fred Dietrich

Recent conventional wisdom held that the only hummingbird in the eastern U.S. was the Ruby-throated Hummingbird and that they all migrated to the tropics in the winter. Hummingbird Research, Inc. of Montgomery, Alabama, has now banded the Ruby-throated Hummingbird and 9 other species of hummingbirds in the Southeast during the winter, proving this untrue. Fred Dietrich of Tallahassee has banded with Hummingbird Research, Inc. since 2001. In June 2010, Fred received word that a



Rufous Hummingbird he banded in Tallahassee had been recaptured in Alaska in the longest ever documented migration route of any hummingbird species. For our November program, we are lucky enough to have Fred share with us

facts about hummingbird biology and what has been learned from banding studies.

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.**

Shop with OAS and Help us Make Our Budget

Don't miss this opportunity to do your holiday shopping at Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) November 17th meeting. Our popular **nature-oriented merchandise** (adult and youth t-shirts, nest boxes, tote bags, signs, mugs and books) will be available at our meeting at Harry P. Leu Gardens (please remember cash or check only; no plastic). We have 14 new adult designs, 9 new youth designs, and new totes, signs and mugs!! If you wish to purchase items, please try to arrive about 6:30 p.m. so you don't miss any of the exciting program on Hummingbirds. If you can help at our merchandise tables, please contact Loretta at LNS-OAS@att.net or 407-886-2925 (recorder and eve.) or Teresa at mwilliam@cfl.rr.com or 407-644-0796 (eve.) to volunteer. Thanks.

Loretta Satterthwaite and Teresa Williams

Limited Edition Field Trip - Saturday, Nov. 26th to Smyrna Dunes Park

Popular Smyrna Dunes Park in New Smyrna Beach is the destination for Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) November Limited Edition field trip. We will look for Piping Plover, Northern Gannet and other coastal species. Limited Edition field trips are limited to 15 people per trip and cost \$10/OAS member and \$15/non-OAS member. Reservations are required and will be taken on a first-come, first served basis the week prior to the trip. For meeting place details, time of departure and return, and to make your reservation for this trip, please contact Bob Sanders at 407-454-0542.

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.
- Lake Apopka, North Shore Restoration Area bird surveys. Contact Pam Bowen at 386-329-4870 or Pbowen@sjrwmd.com or Jim Peterson at 352-735-1267 or JPeterson@sjrwmd.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.

Genius Drive Nature Preserve Field Trip

Reservations are required for a guided field trip to the 48± acre Genius Drive Nature Preserve (GDNP) in Winter Park on December 10th, 8 AM ~ Noon. This walking field trip (FT) will be concurrent with the GDNP bird survey and led by preeminent birder, Bruce Anderson. In just three+ years surveyors have documented 168 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 at mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or 407-644-0796.

OAS Board Members Needed

We still have a couple vacancies on the OAS Board if you are interested in joining. This is a great opportunity to get involved and help make collaborative decisions to guide the growth of the organization. The only requirements are that you be a current member of Orange Audubon Society and work toward its goals. Also, you must be able to attend monthly board meetings held on the third Thursday of every month at Leu Gardens in Orlando. Please contact any of the board members if you wish to help OAS in this capacity or contact Cynthia Gosiewski @ cyngos@aol.com or call her at 407-426-8982. Thank you!

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

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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.

Orange Audubon Society offers Florida Master Naturalist Program Scholarships

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) is pleased to offer two scholarships for educators and volunteers in Central Florida to pay ½ of the \$225 tuition to attend a Florida Master Naturalist Program (FMNP) Core Module class (Freshwater Wetlands, Coastal Systems or Upland Habitats). FMNP is an adult education program developed by the University of Florida. The mission of the program is to promote awareness, understanding, and respect of Florida's natural world. For more information about FMNP see <http://www.masternaturalist.ifas.ufl.edu/about/>.

Scholarship applicants must be OAS members and reside in Central Florida. New members are welcome to apply. Current board members and scholarship committee members are ineligible to apply. Each scholarship recipient will be required to complete a course-related project (such as a display or slide show) and present it to a local school class, civic group or other group as part of Orange Audubon Society's educational outreach program.

Applicants need to send OAS their (1) name, (2) address, (3) phone number, and (4) e-mail as well as (5) a short essay (up to one page) describing how they hope to use what they learn in the FMNP course in their jobs and/or volunteer efforts. The above information should be sent by December 10, 2011 to Mary Keim, OAS Scholarship committee at rsnyder11@cfl.rr.com. The scholarship committee will notify the winners no later than January 10, 2012. The winners will then be reimbursed following OAS's receipt of proof of completion of an FMNP core course. For questions about OAS's FMNP scholarships, contact Mary Keim at rsnyder11@cfl.rr.com.

OAS' BIRDS OF PREY IDENTIFICATION CLASS

Lake Apopka Restoration Area - December 4, 2011

Orange Audubon Society's Birds of Prey ID classes are designed to further the appreciation of raptors and to enhance a birder's ability to identify them. The first class will be held on Sunday, Dec. 4th at the Lake Apopka North Shore Restoration Area, Lust Road entrance. Class will be from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Gallus Quigley, former OAS field trip leader, will be the instructor. We would appreciate a \$5 contribution by OAS members (\$10/non-OAS members) and you need not pre-register for the class. For questions or further details, contact Gallus at 407-242-7833 or gallusq@cfl.rr.com.

Special OAS Boat Tour - Saturday, April 7, 2012

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) is hoping to schedule a fundraising field trip on the St. Johns River on Saturday, April 7, 2012 from 3:00–5:30 p.m. We need to know that at least 35 people will sign up for this trip before we reserve the boat. If you are interested in a birding trip on the St. Johns with a knowledgeable captain and OAS members at a cost of \$25, please contact Danielle Ponsolle at dponsolle@cfl.rr.com to make your reservation.

This eco/nature boat is a 49-passenger pontoon boat in Deland, FL, across the river from Hontoon Island State Park, a beautiful nature lover's paradise. April is an active time for nesting wading birds. Remember, OAS' Chertok photo contest; this is an ideal place to take winning images. Skilled photo instructors will be on board and offering tips on taking the best pictures! What could be more fun than an educational pleasure trip where someone else does the navigating? Please don't delay, contact OAS today to commit to this trip so that we can move forward with our planning. Thanks.

October Limited Edition Field Trip Report

Five people accompanied Gallus to Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge on Sunday October 23rd and saw 61 species. Highlights were Black-throated Blue Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, several Sharp-shinned Hawks, and Florida Scrub-jay. Consider joining Bob Sanders for the Nov. 26th Limited Edition trip (see article this *OASis*).

2-Hour 'Workday' at Genius Drive Nature Preserve

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

The next workday is Sunday, Dec. 4, 9–11 AM. Gardening, a/k/a weeding and mulching, is needed in the restored cedar grove near Lake Mizell. To help, contact Teresa at 407-644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl.rr.com. Further details provided the week before.

Audubon of Florida's Conservation Leadership Initiative

If Audubon's conservation efforts are to succeed, we need to involve and engage more young people. Orange Audubon has this belief and was eager to participate in Audubon of Florida's new effort in this regard. AOF's Conservation Leadership Initiative kicked off at Audubon Assembly in Lake Mary this October. Using funding provided by Disney, AOF recruited about 25 college students from UCF, Stetson University, New College and Jacksonville University. They recruited the same number of volunteer mentors from the chapter leadership attending Audubon Assembly. We held four field trips: to Orlando Wetlands Park, Lyonia Preserve in Deltona, Wekiva Island, and to a mitigation bank set up as part of the Wekiva Parkway. We introduced the students to the natural features and values of these areas and they had the chance to talk extensively with their mentors.

We learned that the students have had little opportunity to get out in the field and they really enjoyed it. Bob Stamps, Loretta Satterthwaite, Rick Baird and I were among the mentors. We will apply what we learned and hope to involve more young people and the UCF student participants in our programs and events. *Deborah Green, 2nd V.P.*

Calendar of Events

OAS EVENTS

Field Trip on November 19, 2011, Lake Apopka Restoration Area, Lake Apopka, FL. For questions call Bob or Loretta, 407-886-2925.

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.

Field Trip for December - Please take part in the Christmas Bird Count starting December 14, 2011. For local details see December OASis. (birds.audubon.org/christmas-bird-count).

Limited Edition Field Trip on December 17, 2011, Lake Jesup (north side), Sanford, FL. For trip reservations call Bob Sanders at 407-454-0542.

SPECIAL EVENTS

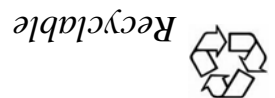
Lake Eola Fiesta in the Park, Downtown Orlando on Nov 5-6, 2011 407-644-0796

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).

Orlando Wetlands Park Festival, Christmas, FL on Feb. 18, 2012 407-851-5416

Audubon Academy 2012, Clewiston, FL on March 16-18, 2012 jsulek@audubon.org



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