



OASis



Orange Audubon Society
A Chapter of National and Florida Audubon Societies

Vol. 48

March 2013

Issue No. 7

This Month's Program: Mar. 21st @ 7:00 p.m.
The Trouble with Turtles: Protecting Sea Turtles at Canaveral National Seashore
by John Stiner

Canaveral National Seashore covers 57,000 acres (24 miles) of undeveloped beach, the longest such stretch on the east coast of Florida. Thirteen federally listed threatened and endangered species make their home within Canaveral's boundaries, including sea turtles, who nest on its shores. Loggerhead turtles are the most prevalent, next are Green turtles, and Leatherbacks, the largest sea turtle species. Less common are Kemp's Ridley and Hawksbill turtles. In 2012, nearly 6000 turtle nests were counted on the Seashore. Mosquito Lagoon, 21,000 acres of which is protected as part of Merritt Island National Wildlife refuge, is situated behind the barrier island, and is an important nursery site for juvenile sea turtles. Turtles are in peril along our coast and worldwide.

John Stiner, Resource Management Specialist at Canaveral National Seashore, will present some of the issues, challenges and rewards of managing these ancient, mysterious creatures. Join us on Thursday, March 21st and also learn how you can become involved "up close and personal" in protecting sea turtles at the Seashore.

Loretta Satterthwaite, Program Chair

Are you migrating? If you move, take the OASis with you! To update your email or street address, contact Mike Daley: miked129e@gmail.com.

Orange Audubon Society Field Trip
Saturday, March 23rd
Viera Wetlands/Click Ponds
with Lori Mathis

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) will travel to Viera Wetlands and Click Ponds in Melbourne for our March field trip on Saturday, March 23. Viera is always a good spot for many wading birds, duck species and raptors. This should be a driving trip, however, there is the possibility that Viera will be closed to vehicular traffic. We will be able to drive the Click Ponds, but please be prepared for some possible hiking in the Wetlands. Bring binoculars, spotting scopes, field guides and sunscreen. Also be sure to bring lunch, snacks and drinks.

We will meet at the rear parking lot of the Burger King at Hwy 50 and Alafaya Trail in East Orange County to carpool. We will leave at 7:30 a.m. If you have any questions, call Lori Mathis at 407-579-3795.

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) meetings & programs are free & no reservations are necessary. Programs are held the 3rd Thursday of every month (September– June) usually at 7 p.m. in the Camellia Room at:
Harry P. Leu Gardens
1920 North Forest Avenue
Orlando, FL 32803-1537.
For map and directions, visit:
www.leugardens.org/plan/directions.htm

The Celery Fields Birding Trip Report

A huge shout out to Jeanne Dubi, President of Sarasota Audubon Society, for leading our group of Orange Audubon Society (OAS) members on Saturday, 1/12/2013. We met at Ackerman Lake in the Celery Fields and not a minute was wasted as we started our bird species count looking out to the lake, then crossing the road to view the North-West Cell body of water. We formed an auto caravan and drove to Raymond Road to walk out on a new 100-yard pier for viewing the South-West Cell of water, then walked out on a man-made Grass Berm Trail for about 200 yards to view both the South-East and South-West Cells. Jumping back into our autos, we went to the Gazebo at the base of the man-made 'Mound' where 5 miles of trails begin. This site will soon be the location of The Audubon Nature Center that will display details of the 400 acre-area; boasting 210 species of birds, including 15 breeders. We then crossed the road and walked onto a second pier for closer viewing of the South-East Cell of water. Finally, we drove to the Founders Club Pond on Fruitville Road. Our official Checklist of Birds of Sarasota County verified our group count to be 54 species of birds. For me personally, I added 11 new species to my lifetime list of Birds of North America.

After the morning of birding, we all (including Jeanne Dubi) met for a great lunch at the Old Packing House Cafe to revisit our day in the field.

Paul Lockett, OAS Coordinator

OAS Nominating Committee Formed

The Orange Audubon Society (OAS) annual election will be held at the April meeting and we continue our appeal for additional Board members. This year, five directors will be elected to fill the 2013-term expirations and there are other open director chairs to fill also. Additionally, we are looking for a Board member to step in as the new Secretary of OAS. If you would like to get more involved in OAS by serving on the Board of Directors and actively participating in our monthly meetings, please let us know.

Nominating committee members include: Cynthia Amoruso (suncyn1031@mac.com), Jerry Mathis (lopiandjerry@cfl.rr.com), Richard Poole (catbird@cfl.rr.com) and me (cyngos@aol.com or 407-426-8982).

If you wish to 'get started now', there are open Board and Hospitality Committee positions. You do not have to be on the Board to chair Hospitality but must be willing to attend program meetings every month.

Board members serve a three-year term, should be available for monthly Board meetings and must be current Orange Audubon Society members. If you, or a friend with an interest in OAS, would enjoy serving your chapter, please contact me or any of the Board or Nominating Committee members. Thank you.

Cynthia Gosiewski, Nominating Committee Chair

Photo Contest Early Entry Reminder

Participants in Orange Audubon Society's 2013 (25th Annual) Kit & Sidney Chertok Florida Native Nature Photography Contest may enter early (by April 18, 2013 received by date) for a Free DO OVER if any entries are disqualified. Replacement of disqualified entries is due by the final deadline of May 16, 2013 (received by date). Check entry forms for complete contest rules: http://www.orangeaudubonfl.org/oas_chertok.html or contact Teresa with questions: mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or 407-644-0796.

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

Annual Birdathon Fundraiser—Sunday, April 28th

Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) annual fundraising birdathon will be held on Sunday, April 28th. On that day, birders (teams or individuals) will spend the entire day striving to identify as many bird species as possible. Birders may concentrate on one area (parks and uplands or seashores, etc.) or travel across the state to find those elusive birds that will increase the total number of species seen during that 24-hr period. OAS' goals are twofold: 1) see lots of species that day (our goal is still that elusive 200 species!) and 2) get lots of pledges in support of the birdathon.

We are asking for your help. Join or lead a team of birders (contact Loretta at 407-886-2925 or LNS-oas@att.net to volunteer) and/or ask for pledges (5¢, 10¢, 25¢, 50¢, \$1 or any amount per species seen or a flat contribution of \$5, \$10 or any other amount). When we tally the number of species, we'll let you know and you collect the money for OAS from your pledgers. This is OAS' 'Girl Scout Cookies', or 'walkathon'; don't be shy about asking your co-workers, vet, dentist, doctor, neighbor, etc. to support our efforts to raise funds that will be used in the Central Florida area for conservation or education. Thank you.

Epcot Flower & Garden Festival

The Orange Audubon Society has been invited back to the Epcot Flower and Garden Show. The event is held March 6–May 19 and OAS shifts are available every Friday, Saturday and Sunday through May 19. We are asked to staff the OAS table from 10 a.m.– 3 p.m. It is also necessary to set up and take down the display before and after each shift. Each volunteer will receive a complimentary Disney one-day one-park ticket after successfully volunteering for the day.

Many of you have volunteered in the past and know what a rewarding and fun opportunity it is. We have a table at the festival center and have a unique opportunity to speak to guests from around the country and the world about nature and to promote our goals of taking care of birds and the environment. Please help us to make it another successful show as we have in the past.

If you are available please contact me via email at cyngos@aol.com or call me at 407-426-8982.
Thank you.

Cynthia Gosiewski, Epcot Volunteer Coordinator

Audubon Academy—Learn How to Help OAS and the Environment

Have you been approached to serve your chapter (Orange Audubon Society – OAS) by joining our Board of Directors? Are you hesitant to do so because you don't know what is expected or how to do what is expected? Audubon Academy, an Audubon leadership training program to help boost the confidence and knowledge of current or potential chapter leaders, is just around the corner. This year's Academy will be held at the Lakeside Inn in Mount Dora on April 12th–14th. The conference agenda and registration information are posted on the Audubon Florida website (<http://florida-audubon.ticketleap.com/2013-audubon-academy/>) so check there for details (to avoid late fee, register by Mar. 29th). This program is planned and presented by chapters for chapters. Costs are kept low to encourage participation and OAS' board has budgeted funding to reimburse several members for registration. Please call 407-886-2925 if you have questions.

Bob Stamps, Audubon Florida Chapters Chair and Academy Coordinator

Genius Preserve Workday Planned

Come join us Sunday, March 24th, 9–11 a.m. with gloves and shovel in hand to plant native trees to revive the degraded, hydric habitat along Lake Mizell, one of three lakes that embrace the 48+ acre Genius Drive Nature Preserve. The planting will help revive the area to provide additional habitat for 173 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. For more details and to sign up, contact Teresa: mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or 407-644-0796.

**Orange Audubon Society
Board of Directors 2012–2013**

PRESIDENT

Deborah Green (14) 407-637-2525

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Rick Baird (14) 407-277-3357

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Loretta Satterthwaite (14) 407-886-2925

SECRETARY

Mary Keim (14) 407-851-5416

TREASURER

Teresa Williams (14) 407-644-0796

BOARD MEMBERS

Cynthia Amoruso (15) 407-808-7411

Robert Amoruso (13) 407-808-7417

John Cento (14) 407-913-2417

Cynthia Gosiewski (13) 407-426-8982

Milton Heiberg (13) 407-658-4869

Paul Lockett (15) 407-679-9644

Lori Mathis (13) 407-579-3795

Brent Mobley (15) 407-376-1722

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

Sharon Robbins (14) 407-376-4930

Dominique Shimizu (13) 407-287-4078

Randy Snyder (14) 407-851-5416

Bob Stamps (15) 407-886-2925

Calendar of Events

OAS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Beginner’s Bird Identification, Orlando Wetlands Park.

March 9, 16 & 23, 2013; 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Leader: Bob Sanders—407-454-0542, Cost: \$30 (members); \$45 (non-members); \$10 (12 & under with registered adult).

Field Trip to Viera Wetlands/Click Ponds near Melbourne,

March 23, 2013. For trip questions call Lori Mathis at 407-579-3795. See Page 1.

Genius Drive Workday,

Sunday, March 24th, 9–11 a.m. Contact Teresa 407-644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl.rr.com. See Page 3.

OAS Birdathon, April 28, 2013. See Page 3 for more details.

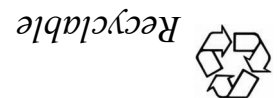
OAS & SPECIAL EVENTS

FREE Lake Apopka Wildlife Festival & Birdapalooza, Saturday, March 9, 2013 at Orange County’s Magnolia Park, Apopka. Call 407-421-9437 for info. (www.birdapalooza.com).

Audubon Academy, Apr. 12–14, 2013, at the Lakeside Inn in Mount Dora (www.lakeside-inn.com). See page 3.

Baby Owl Shower, Audubon Center for Birds of Prey, Maitland, May 11, 2013. Call 407-539-5700.

Chertok Nature Photography Contest - Final Submission Deadline: May 16, 2013, Optional Pre-screening Deadline: Apr 18, 2013. Replace entries disqualified at pre-screening FREE by May 16 deadline. Awards: June 20, 2013—407-644-0796.



Current Resident or

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