



OASis



Orange Audubon Society
A Chapter of National and Florida Audubon Societies

Vol. 48

June 2013

Issue No. 10

This Month's Program: June 20, 2013 – 6:00 p.m. at Harry P. Leu Gardens OAS' Annual Chertok Nature Photography Awards Program, Party & Silent Auction

It is time once again to celebrate the end of another Orange Audubon Society (OAS) season with the traditional final program that features entries in the 2013 (25th Annual) Kit and Sidney Chertok Florida Native Nature Photography Contest. A Silent Auction has also become a tradition for this end-of-season event and OAS will furnish tasty and substantial finger foods. Just arrive at 6 p.m. with an appetite for delicious food and beautiful photography plus your wallet for the silent auction. Any who wish may also make a small donation (\$3 suggested) to help defray the cost of the event.

The party and Silent Auction will begin at 6:00 p.m. The photo contest program will begin around 7 p.m. The theme for the contest, *Florida's Creatures and Features*, elicited outstanding images from across Florida. You will not want to miss seeing this exclusive show that will feature eligible entries in the Youth, Novice and Advanced categories.

Winners of the 2013 contest will be announced and awards and ribbons presented at the end of the show, but competition will continue throughout the evening for dozens of Silent Auction donations (and still counting) from local restaurants, native nurseries, camera and outdoor retail outfitters, area theme parks, resorts, spas, our fantastic members and more (see article inside for featured items).

Mark the date and don't forget to bring three things with you: an appetite for good food and camaraderie, your checkbook or cash for our world famous 'cash-n-carry quickly' auction (credit cards accepted, but slower to process!!) and your best party attitude. Let's make a fuss over us!

Teresa Williams, OASNPC Chair

Genius Preserve Workday Planned

Please come on Sunday, June 23rd, 9–11 a.m. with gloves and shovel in hand to help with 'gardening' in the 48+ acre Genius Drive Nature Preserve in Winter Park. OAS Workdays are especially important in June when Rollins College students, who help with maintenance of the Preserve, are gone for the summer. Maintenance (i.e., weeding and mulching) has gotten easier as native plants become established and naturally shade out/control non-native plants.

For details and to sign up, contact Teresa: mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or 407-644-0796.

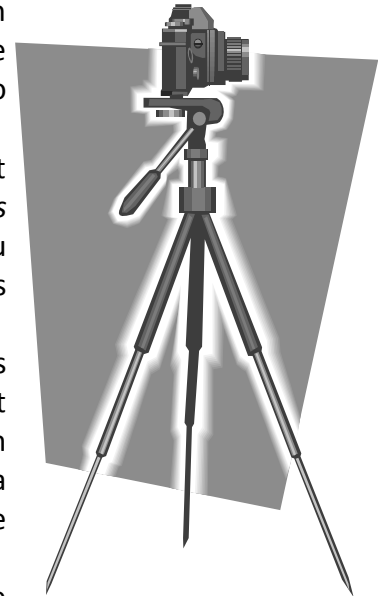
Orange Audubon Society (OAS) meetings & programs are free & no reservations are necessary. Programs are held the 3rd Thursday of every month (September– June)

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



Thanks to you, our members and the Board

I would like to thank you all for another great year for Orange Audubon Society, the year Audubon Florida recognized OAS as both Chapter of the Year and as having Best Chapter Membership Program. You all, our membership, have stepped up with donations through Birdathon and the letter appeal, donations and hospitality at our monthly programs, and many of you have let us know that you will take the *OASis* electronically, which saves resources. Others of you have given your time to serve on our committees and volunteered at our outreach events. We are truly grateful for this support.

Our Board has worked tirelessly on Conservation issues, either locally or statewide in conjunction with Audubon Florida. These issues become more and more challenging, so if you have time to help, please let Conservation Chair Rick Baird know. This is probably the greatest need our chapter has, as Orange Audubon strives to be "the Voice of Conservation for Central Florida". Each of the Board members performed essential functions for the running of our chapter and as president, I say thank you! Special thanks to Lori Mathis, who led so many great field trips, and to Robert Amoruso, our terrific newsletter editor, both of whom are leaving the Board and will be missed.

While our programs are on hiatus in July and August, the Board will be planning next year's efforts and events. We look forward to seeing you all June 20th at the Chertok Photo Contest awards show and silent auction, and I encourage you to talk with me and the other Board members as to your ideas for our Chapter. Thanks again!

Deborah Green, OAS President

Please Send Your Birdathon Contributions

This year's Orange Audubon Society (OAS) Birdathon was held on Sunday, April 28, 2013. The weather was great and our birding teams and individuals picked specific areas in their attempts to find and identify as many interesting, beautiful, and unique bird species as possible. The first team to report in was the Genius Drive Nature Preserve team that saw 45 species. Several individual and two-person teams then reported in, each adding at least one new species to the total count before the highest-count team of Lori & Jerry Mathis, Brook & Brad Rohman, and Graham Williams reported in with 138 species, adding 87 new ones to our day's list. After that four more teams/individuals reported in, bringing our total for the day to **179 species** plus one Snowy Egret x Tricolored Heron hybrid. Some 'usually seen' species such as Ruby-throated Hummingbird and Belted Kingfisher were surprisingly absent this year.

OAS extends its congratulations to all of our Birdathon participants for their skills and efforts and our thanks for spending your time and gasoline on this fundraiser for OAS. Thanks also to those of you who worked to receive and collect pledges for this go-beyond-our-membership fundraiser; it's good for those who aren't members to show their appreciation for what our conservation efforts make possible. Readers, if you haven't yet made your contribution or asked others to support OAS by making a tax-deductible donation, please do so and send them to Orange Audubon Society, P.O. Box 941142, Maitland, FL 32794-1142. Thank you for your support.

Loretta Satterthwaite, Birdathon Co-chair

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.

Silent Auction Donor Acknowledgement

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) gratefully acknowledges the donors below who, at press time, have pledged to make contributions for the silent auction on June 20th. Funds generated by the silent auction are designated for OAS' future education center. As other donations are received, we hope to be able to update a list on the website: www.orangeaudubonfl.org.

- Albin Polasek Museum, Winter Park – 4 Admission tickets
- Atlas Screen Printing/Wild Cotton – Nature mugs, sign, cap and t-shirts
- Audubon Center for Birds of Prey, Maitland – Behind-the-Scenes tour for 5 people and an Invitation to a Bird Release
- Biosphere native plant nursery, Winter Garden – Gift Certificate for plants or other merchandise
- Blue Heron River Tours, Deland – 2 Gift Certificates for 2-adult admissions each
- Boas, Sherry – signed copy of *Simply Wild: Untamed Wonders Large and Small*
- Bok Tower Gardens, Lake Wales – 4 Admission tickets
- Bubbalou's, Apopka – Gift Certificate for Dinner for 2
- Cento, John – Certificate for 30-minute Business Appraisal Consultation, *Hawks at a Distance- Identification of Migrant Raptors* by Jerry Liguori (new) and *The Audubon Book of True Nature Stories* by John K. Terres (used)
- Colonial Photo & Hobby, Inc., Orlando – Cool merchandise for the cool photo hobbyist
- Dexter's Restaurants and owner, Dexter Richardson – 2 Gift Cards
- Dixie Crossroads, Titusville – 5 Gift Certificates
- Eo Inn Spa, Orlando – A 1-night stay and couples' massage
- Garibaldi's Authentic Mexican Restaurant, Apopka – Gift Certificate
- Green Images native plant nursery, Christmas – Gift Certificate
- Green Isle Gardens native plant nursery, Groveland – Gift Certificate
- Heiberg, Milton – 3 matted prints
- Hounds & Kitties, Maitland – Gift Certificate for healthy pet foods & treats, toys, etc.
- Keim, Mary & Randy Snyder – Pennington Classic *Cedar Estate* Bird Feeder
- Lakeside Inn, Mt. Dora – 3 day/2 night Gift Certificate
- Miller, Mark – Original driftwood art with Dragonfly
- Morris, Artie – *The Art of Bird Photography* book & *The Art of Bird Photography II* CD
- Morse Museum, Winter Park – 8 General admission tickets
- Morrison, Helen (via Bill Partington) – *The Tonic of Wilderness* and *Mountain Lake Almanac* by Ken Morrison
- Mosquito Creek Outdoors, Apopka – 4 Gift Cards, Yeti 'Roadie', and 'Life is Good' package
- Oactive's Interior Solutions, Winter Springs – 1-hr Design/Window Treatment Consultation Certificate
- Orlando Wetlands Park – 2013 official festival t-shirts
- P. F. Chang's – Gift Card
- Premier Boat Tours, Mt. Dora – Gift Certificate for Tour for 2
- Richardson, Dexter – Guided birding adventure to a central Florida birding hot spot
- Sea World/Aquatica – 4 combo tickets
- Spin City Cycles, Apopka – Gift Certificate
- Starbucks (Park Avenue), Winter Park – A pound of coffee beans
- Steak and Shake – coupons
- Taylor, Dr. Walter Kingsley – *Florida Wildflowers: A Comprehensive Guide* by the man himself!
- The Mountain – Nature graphics t-shirts
- The Ritz Carlton Golf Club Orlando, Grande Lakes – Round of Golf for Four Players
- The Ritz Carlton Orlando – Sunday Brunch for Two at The Vineyard Grill

Silent Auction Donor Acknowledgement (Continued)

- Tijuana Flats – 5 Gift Cards
- Total Wine & More, Orlando – Wine Education Class Punch Card for 2 couples (4 classes total)
- Walt Disney World – 4 One-day tickets for any Central Florida Disney theme park
- Wekiva Island, Longwood – Canoe Rental Gift Certificates
- Wheel Works, Winter Garden – Gift Certificate
- Wild Birds Unlimited, Winter Springs – Squirrel-proof Birdfeeder and other merchandise for nature-lovers
- Winter Park Scenic Boat Tour – Adult tickets to tour 3 canal-linked Winter Park lakes
- Worldwide Orchids, Inc., Apopka – 2 Potted orchids
- Wraithmell, Andy – Great Florida Birding Trail ball cap, patch and flash drive

Restrictions may apply to time and use of gift cards, certificates and/or tours, etc. and Florida sales tax (6½%) will be added where applicable.

Many contributions will be received too late to be listed here, including those of the Make It, Bake It, Grow It type (but please let us know ahead of time if you plan to bring them). Plan to be surprised by additional items at the event and plan to outbid even your best Audubon buddies! Remember to bring cash or checkbook for speedy checkout (we can accept credit cards, although processing may be slower). Your participation as a solicitor or contributor of donations or bidder or all three is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

*Teresa Williams (mwilliams@cfl.rr.com; 407-644-0796) and
Loretta Satterthwaite (LNS-oas@att.net; 407-886-2925)*

During OAS' Summer Break—Take Five

No, that's not Dave Brubeck although that's a distinct possibility and probably many of you will enjoy that during the summer, too. That is Eric Draper, President & Executive Director of Audubon Florida speaking to all the citizens of Florida. He suggests that you Take Five: "Take yourself to a park or waterway, take friends and family, take notes and pictures, take a moment to tell others about the experience, and then take action – be a good steward to that place or become an advocate for wildlife and water". This will help you and others learn about Florida's Special Places, and once you and they know about it, you'll get engaged and help do something about it — perhaps saving it for future generations. We at Orange Audubon Society encourage you to Take Five this summer and call or email any of our Board of Directors if you wish to share your Take Five experience.

Loretta Satterthwaite and Bob Stamps

Leaving a Legacy

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) would be glad to accept contributions in the form of a lasting legacy to OAS so that we may continue our conservation and education efforts on your behalf. If you are making plans of this sort, please remember that OAS could use your help. If you have questions, please contact one of our officers and we'll be glad to talk to you about it. Thanks for your consideration.

Lake Apopka National Wildlife Refuge Happenings

On June 11th at the St. Johns River Water Management District Board Meeting, there will most likely be an informational discussion on the proposed Lake Apopka National Wildlife Refuge. We believe that the meeting will be informational only with no input from the public, but do not know for certain at this time. Please check the agenda for the meeting at <http://floridaswater.com/governingboardmeetings/> if you have an interest in attending.

*****Action Alert*****

Audubon Florida just issued a challenge to Audubon chapters statewide: the first ten chapters to collect 1,000 signed Florida Water Land Legacy petitions between Memorial Day and Labor Day will win a \$500 cash prize. Can you help Orange Audubon Society by gathering signatures — *wherever you go in Florida* before September 2nd? Contact Deborah (sabalpress@mac.com or 407-637-2625) or Loretta (LNS-oas@att.net or 407-421-9437) for information or petitions.

Call for Program Ideas

OAS works on the programs for the coming year starting in the spring and finalizing it by July. If you have any ideas for programs, please call Loretta Satterthwaite at 407-886-2925 with your suggestions or send them to her at LNS-oas@att.net. Thank you.

2013 Wildlife Surveys

- Orlando Wetlands Park Butterfly Survey - contact Randy Snyder or Mary Keim at 407-851-5416 or rsnyder11@cfl.rr.com.
- Lake Apopka North Shore Restoration Area Bird Survey - contact Pam Bowen at 386-329-4870 or pbowen@sjrwmd.com.
- Ferndale Preserve Quarterly Bird Survey - contact Gallus Quigley, Jr. at 352-516-8512 or gquigley@lakecountyfl.gov or gallusq@cfl.rr.com.
- Emerald Marsh Conservation Area Bird Survey - contact John Stenberg at 386-329-4822 or jstenberg@sjrwmd.com.

Please Help Do Your Part

We are a large organization serving a large area — almost all of Orange County and parts of Seminole, Osceola and Lake counties. Besides needing someone to serve as Editor for the monthly *OASis* now that Robert Amoruso is stepping down, Orange Audubon Society (OAS) is looking for members who can serve on the conservation and education committees. Examples of how you can help OAS with these committees are given below.

Conservation committee: It would be very helpful if you could be our ‘eyes and ears’ in the area in which you live and alert the conservation chair to what is happening; it would also help if you could attend important meetings that occur in your area and report to the committee about them. Do you care about what’s happening around you?

Education committee: OAS especially needs a contact to the science curriculum personnel — for the district or at each school. OAS offers state-aligned educational materials, free for the asking, to elementary classes in our coverage areas. Would you be willing to serve on OAS’ education committee and help us contact the ‘right’ person or the teachers who might be interested in using these materials? Another education committee opportunity is to visit classes and talk about wildlife — plants or animals. These are usually short (10–15 minute) sessions, including time for questions. [Remember, it’s always fair game to say “Well, what do you think?” and generate a discussion that will include everyone.]

Please contact Deborah (sabalpress@mac.com or 407-637-2525) to ask how you can help or to volunteer for the committee of your choice. She will direct you to that committee’s 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
Board of Directors 2012–2013**

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Rick Baird (14) 407-277-3357

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Loretta Satterthwaite (14) 407-886-2925

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Teresa Williams (14) 407-644-0796

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Cynthia Gosiewski (13)	407-426-8982
Milton Heiberg (13)	407-658-4869
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Calendar of Events	
<p><u>OAS EVENTS</u></p> <p>Orange Audubon Society (OAS) Meeting June 20, 2013, 6 p.m. OAS' Annual Chertok Nature Photography Awards Program, Party & Silent Auction.</p>	<p><u>SUMMER BREAK DESTINATION SUGGESTIONS</u></p> <p>Have a great summer. Get out and enjoy the outdoors, go birding, kayaking, take a nature walk, or any number of summer outdoor activities. Three places to go in Orange & Brevard Counties great for kids and adults alike:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orlando Wetlands Park, Christmas, FL. http://www.cityoforlando.net/public_works/wetlands/index.htm) • Mead Botanical Gardens, Winter Park, FL http://www.meadgarden.org/) • Barrier Island Sanctuary, 8385 South Hwy A1A Melbourne Beach, FL 32951. http://www.brevardcounty.us/EELProgram/Areas/BarrierIslandSanctuary)