



"The Voice of Conservation in Central Florida"

OASis

Orange Audubon Society
A Chapter of National and Florida Audubon Societies



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Issue No. 10

June 19th, 2014—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 2014 (26th 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 so that you don't need to worry about making dinner before or after the program. Just arrive at 6:00 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 7:00 p.m. This year's contest 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 2014 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, 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!

**VOTE
YES ON 1**

It's Now or Perhaps Never!

Over the summer, and until voting ends on November 4th, take every opportunity you can to promote the Conservation Amendment to every voter in Florida. This amendment is the lifeblood for conservation in Florida. Once our June 19th meeting is over, Orange Audubon does not have any formal meetings scheduled until September 18th, but don't let that keep you from talking to people and explaining the importance of passing Amendment 1. We have promotional materials – flyers and a banner – that can be taken to various events so if you know of one, please contact Deborah at sabalpress@mac.com or (407) 637-2525 or Bob at rhs-oas@att.net or (407) 886-2925. (See additional 'Save the Date' article on page 5).



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 7:00 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

Please Send Your Birdathon Contributions

This year's Orange Audubon Society (OAS) Birdathon was held on Sunday, April 27th, 2014. The weather was great and our 8 birding teams and individuals (Bob Stamps; Brook & Brad Rohman, Lori Mathis and Graham Williams; Mary Keim & Randy Snyder; the Genius Drive Nature Preserve team organized by Teresa Williams; Deborah Green and Adam Kent; Bob Sanders, Joyce & Bill Stefancic; John Cento; and Gallus Quigley) picked specific areas in their attempts to find and identify as many interesting, beautiful, and unique bird species as possible. Teams fanned out to various locations in Central Florida, but also visited Ft. DeSoto, Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area and the Florida Keys. Our total for the day was 166 species. It's a fun day, so plan to join a team next year and help OAS reach that elusive goal of 200 species!

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

Homeowners Association Notebook Project

Orange Audubon Society will be collaborating with the Florida Native Plant Society, Tarflower Chapter, to put together notebooks of native and wildlife-friendly landscaping literature. Homeowners Associations (HOAs) interested in having a notebook will invite an OAS representative as speaker. We are advertising this program through Orange County's Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalization Division and its 2014 Florida Neighborhoods Conference that will be Thursday, July 10th through Saturday, July 12th, 2014 at Loews Royal Pacific Hotel. If you live in a community with an HOA, perhaps you would encourage them to book our presentation and receive the literature collection. Contact Deborah at (407) 637-2525 or sabalpress@mac.com for information.

Go Green Update!

If you still need to sign up, send your email address (subject: go green) to Mike Daley (miked129e@gmail.com). If you do not have access to electronic mailing, please let us know by sending a note to Orange Audubon Society - OASis, P.O. Box 941142, Maitland, FL 32794-1142. Please include your name and address and tell us that you do not have electronic access. Please don't delay; we want to be able to stay in touch with all of our members. Thanks.

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 areas 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 the Orange Audubon Society.

Thank you to Mary, Randy, and Bob for leading so many wonderful field trips!

May Field Trip Report

Fifteen attended the OAS field trip to the Joshua Creek Trailhead of Charles H. Bronson State Forest on May 17th. The weather was pleasantly cool.

The group observed 26 bird species including Wild Turkey, Red-shouldered Hawk, Great Crested Flycatcher, White-eyed Vireo, Eastern Bluebird, Northern Parula, Pine Warbler, Eastern Towhee and Bachman's Sparrow. Invertebrates included Ebony Jewelwing (at Joshua and Buscombe Creeks; one attracted to hats), Pipevine Swallowtail (caterpillar on Virginia Snakeroot; fresh adult next to empty chrysalis; mated pair), Zebra Swallowtail and Yellowjacket Hover Fly.

Wildflowers in bloom included Saw Palmetto, Southern Magnolia, Loblolly Bay, Spurred Butterfly Pea, Blackroot, Florida Greeneyes and Black-eyed Susan. The group observed fruits of Sweetgum, Shiny Blueberry, and Nettle Pawpaw. We noted ecotones as we dropped in elevation from sandhill into pine flatwoods and pine flatwoods into hardwood hammock.

Thanks to all who have attended field trips this year. See you in September!

Mary Keim, Field Trip Chair

Thank You!

We've concluded another successful year at EPCOT's Flower & Garden Festival. Thank you to our many volunteers who sacrificed time from their busy schedules each week to assist. You enlightened and informed our many guests from around Florida, the US and the world about what Orange Audubon Society does to promote birding, conservation and sustainability in the central Florida area. These ideas can be implemented wherever a person lives. We have a very positive impact on the lives of our guests and their natural environment and in turn, their stories enlighten us.

As always, Walt Disney World is a generous host and creates a warm and friendly environment in which we are able to share our stories. I want to thank everyone for their time and talent and I hope we can all do it again next year.

Cynthia Gosiewski, Volunteer Coordinator

Chertok Photos Chosen for Display by Colonial Photo & Hobby

Congratulations go to eleven photographers whose images entered in Orange Audubon Society's 2013 Chertok Florida Native Nature Photography Contest (CFNNPC) were selected for displays at Colonial Photo & Hobby (CPH), 634 N. Mills Avenue, Orlando, FL. Each year CPH makes 'blind' selections (meaning without knowing the photographers' names) from all eligible contest entries.

The displays, which are being installed as this newsletter goes to press, include fourteen images: *American Alligator** and *Four Strikes and You're Out!* by **Kevin Barry**; *Osprey Calling** and *Osprey Homecoming* by **Jim Boland**; *Great Egret Regurgitating Fish for Chicks** by **Peter Christensen**; *Cattle Egret** by **James Kochanowski**; *Wood Stork** by **Sheyenne Lake**; *Osprey with Gizzard Shad** by **Evelyn Mason**; *American Kestrel* (Honorable Mention) by **Kristen Mauzy**; *Bobcat* and *Burrowing Owl* by **Diane Munster**; *The Tightrope Walker – Purple Gallinule* (Honorable Mention) by **Jake Paredes**; *Green Anole** by **Larry Rosen** and *Gator Sunning on Log** by **Sandy Wynant**. Images marked with an asterisk (*) already grace the front window. Remaining images are being installed above the camera department.

Colonial Photo & Hobby has co-sponsored the competition since 2004 by contributing some of the prizes for winning photographers and featuring selected entries within their ever-busy retail premises. The displays help to increase interest in the contest and nature photography and credit the talented photographers whose works portray Florida's native nature so beautifully.

Teresa Williams, CFNNPC Chair

Silent Auction Donor Acknowledgements

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) gratefully acknowledges the donors below who, at press time, have pledged to make contributions for the silent auction on June 19th. 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: Admission tickets
- Atlas Screen Printing/Wild Cotton: 2 bundles of nature-inspired merchandise
- Audubon Center for Birds of Prey, Maitland: Behind-the-Scenes tour for 5 people
- Beefy King: unspecified
- Biosphere native plant nursery, Winter Garden: Gift Certificate for plants or other merchandise
- Bok Tower Gardens, Lake Wales: Admission tickets
- Brio's Restaurant: Gift Certificate
- Bubbalou's Bodacious Bar-B-Que, Apopka: Gift Certificate
- Carpenter, Linda: *Vanishing Songbirds* by Eliot Porter and *National Geographic's Birding Essentials*
- Cento, John: ½-hr business appraisal consultation and assorted plants
- Colonial Photo & Hobby, Inc., Orlando: Cool merchandise for the cool photo hobbyist
- DeVane, Maggie: Lacquerware Jewelry Case; John Gould & H.C. Richter Hummingbird litho graph; and hooded Audubon windbreaker
- Dexter's Restaurants, owner Dexter Richardson: 2 Gift Cards
- Enzian Theater: Evening for 2 + one Gift Certificate
- Fischer, Sherry: 20x24 framed digital photo (Nesting Egret)
- Green, Deborah: 2 *Watching Wildlife in the Wekiva River Basin* + 2 *Paradise Preserved: Natural History Explorations—Canaveral National Seashore & Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge* + plants
- Green Isle Gardens native plant nursery, Groveland: Gift Certificate
- Hart, Barbara: 2 11x14 matted prints (*The Red Barn & Down in the Valley*) + a 14x18 unframed acrylic impressionist landscape (*Till the Clouds Roll By*)
- Heiberg, Milton: 4 signed 13x19 prints, each mounted on 20x30 black foam board
- HoneyBaked Ham Store, Altamonte Springs: hospitality at June event
- Hounds & Kitties, Maitland: Gift Certificate for healthy pet foods & treats, toys, etc.
- Keim, Mary & Randy Snyder: *Florida's Seashells: A Beachcomber's Guide* by Blair & Dawn Witherington
- Lake Apopka Wildlife Festival & Birdapalooza: 2014 & 2013 official festival t-shirts
- Lakeside Inn, Mt. Dora: 2 day/1 night Gift Certificate
- Mad Cow Theatre Company: 2 tickets to regular performance of The Who's Tommy
- Mellow Mushroom, Mt. Dora: Gift Certificate
- Miller's Hardware: Hummingbird feeder, nectar & Gift Certificate
- Morse Museum, Winter Park: General admission tickets
- Mosquito Creek Outdoors, Apopka: Gift Cards and more for the outdoors person
- Orlando Science Center: Admission tickets
- Orlando Wetlands Park: 2014 official festival t-shirts
- Pastovino Restaurant and Pizzeria, Apopka: Gift Card for XL 2-toppings pizza + 20 wings
- Poole, Richard: 3 nestboxes and 2 native plants
- Premier Boat Tours, Mt. Dora: Gift Certificate for Tour for 2
- Rollins College Center for Lifelong Education: Gift Certificate for two classes
- Sloane, Margie: *Ibis Landing* – framed digital photo
- Starbucks (Aloma & Lakemont), Winter Park: Coffee beans
- Steak and Shake: coupons

- Stefancic, Joyce: *Where the Birds Are* by Robert J. Dolezal and *Birding: A Nature Company Guide* by Forshaw, Howell, Lindsey and Stallcup
- The Historic Edgewater Hotel, Winter Garden: Gift Certificate for one-night stay at this “Bed & Breakfast Style Inn”
- Walt Disney World: 4 Park Hopper one-day tickets
- Watkins, Mistie: original art work
- Wekiva Island, Longwood: Gift Certificates
- Wild Birds Unlimited, Winter Springs: EcoTough Recycled Plastic Bird Feeder with Mounting Pole and Squirrel Baffle + No Mess Bird Seed
- Williams, Teresa: 1991 Winter Park Sidewalk Festival framed poster
- Winter Park Scenic Boat Tour: Adult tickets to tour 3 canal-linked Winter Park lakes
- Worldwide Orchids, Inc., Apopka: 2 potted orchids

Restrictions may apply to time and use of gift cards, certificates and/or tours, etc. and Florida sales tax (6 1/2%) 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.

Save the Date and Register Now! & Vote Yes on Amendment One

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 28th at the Gleason Performing Arts Center on the Florida Institute of Technology campus in Melbourne, FL, former Governor and Senator Bob Graham will explain why this amendment is so important and what it can accomplish to protect our rivers, lakes and streams, restore natural treasures and preserve our beaches and shores.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear this revered statesman talk about this important ballot box decision. Reserve your seat at no cost by registering at <http://amendment1.eventbrite.com>. Mark your calendar because there will be no other OASis reminder before this event.

Thanks to Outgoing Board Members

Loretta Satterthwaite will be leaving the OAS board at the end of June to take care of family matters. She will be deeply missed. Loretta is a recently retired publications associate/statistician from the University of Florida Mid-Florida Research and Education Center in Apopka who, along with her husband Bob Stamps, has worked tirelessly for OAS for over 30 years. She served as president for six years and held other offices, most recently 2nd Vice President/Program Chairperson. The successful fund-raising program of selling t-shirts and the Chertok contest Silent Auction have been her efforts, along with that of Treasurer Teresa Williams. Loretta serves on the Conservation Committee, helped launch the Birdapalooza festival, and has edited nearly every newsletter, grant proposal or elected official letter that OAS has sent. Whether President or a Board member, Loretta is OAS' go-to person, as she will get it done. At the Chertok Photo Contest program when you see her for possibly the last time, be sure to say hi and thank you.

Lori Parsons was a newcomer to the Board last year but not shy about stepping up. She served as both newsletter editor and Secretary and did an excellent job at both. She tirelessly collected petitions for the Legacy campaign and volunteered at many events. Lori, if your need to travel for work changes, please join us again.

Cynthia Amoruso served as Speaker's Bureau chair, helped with Facebook and Meetup, secured the successful Ethos 5% day, and made OAS connections to the Vegetarians of Central Florida, who sponsor Central Florida Earth Day. Thanks, Cynthia, for your help to Orange Audubon Society. We appreciate it.

Bird-Friendly Yards 201

Do you have a yard that is extremely bird-friendly? For instance, do you get Painted Buntings in winter? Have you had visits by hummingbirds besides the Ruby-Throated Hummingbird? Do you have breeding Carolina Chickadees, Northern Parulas, and/or Eastern Bluebirds? Does an Oven-bird overwinter in your yard? Do you have Eastern Screech Owls? Do Chimney Swifts breed in your chimney?

Because a picture is worth a thousand words, the Bird-friendly Yards 201 project is to accumulate photos and tips from OAS members with exceptionally bird-friendly yards. Some Audubon Chapters actually organize tours of these yards, and that's something to work towards. A first step is just identifying the yards and getting some basic photos. You don't have to have a good photo but let us know what rarer birds you have and do start photographing your yard throughout the seasons.

Send an email before July to Deborah Green at sabalpress@mac.com or call her at (407) 637-2525. You can also post photos and info on Orange Audubon Society's Facebook page or email to Mary Keim to post these. She's at rssmhk@gmail.com. Thanks. We all want to see your rare birds and be able to attract them to our own yards!

Central Florida Butterfly Identification Workshop on October 11th, 2014

Orange Audubon Society is offering a fall Butterfly Identification Workshop. The 8-hour workshop is Saturday, October 11th, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with a short lunch break. 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, contact Randy and Mary at rssmhk@gmail.com or (407) 851-5416). Participants should bring drink, lunch and wear appropriate field attire including close-toed shoes you don't mind getting wet.

Registration is required. Cost is \$25 for Audubon members; \$40 for non-members; 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 at mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or (407) 644-0796).

Calendar of Events



OAS Silent Auction and Chertok Nature Photography Contest Show. June 19th, 6:00 p.m.

See page 1.

Genius Drive Nature Preserve Workday. Sunday, June 22nd, 9:00–11:00 a.m. Bring your own shovel! Contact Teresa for details: mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or (407) 644-0796.

Amendment One Talk with Former Governor and Senator Bob Graham. August 28th. See page 5.

OAS First Program of 2014–2015. Thursday, September 18th.

Central Florida Butterfly Identification Workshop. October 11th, 8:30 a.m–5 p.m. at Orlando Wetlands Park and nearby Seminole Ranch Conservation Area. For workshop information, contact Randy and Mary: rssmhk@gmail.com or (407) 851-5416). To register contact Teresa: mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or (407) 644-0796.