



"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. 1

## Pine Lily Preserve Field Trip Saturday - September 20, 2014

Orange Audubon Society will visit Pine Lily Preserve in east Orange County on Saturday, September 20, from 8 a.m.–12 p.m. This 431-acre Orange County Green Place property borders Hal Scott Preserve, helping to expand the wildlife corridor in the Econlockhatchee River Basin. The property is named after one of the threatened species found there, Pine Lily or Catesby's Lily (*Lilium catesbaei*).



Pine Lily by Mary Keim

Meet in the parking lot of the Pine Lily Preserve located at the south end of south C.R. 13 in Bithlo at 8 a.m. No registration is required. Bring plenty to drink, sun protection, insect protection, birding gear and lunch (for after the hike). There are no facilities. We will walk about 3.5 miles at a pace to observe plants and animals along the way. Contact us with questions about the trip at [rsmhk@gmail.com](mailto:rsmhk@gmail.com). For information about the property, go to [www.orangecountyfl.net/Environment/NaturalLands/](http://www.orangecountyfl.net/Environment/NaturalLands/) and enter Pine Lily Preserve in the search field. Join us!

Mary Keim and Randy Snyder, Field Trip Committee

## Wildlife Friendly Yards Tour

Orange Audubon Society encourages Central Florida residents to make their landscapes wildlife friendly by reducing turf, eliminating pesticides, planting natives, providing water, and other techniques.

We are collecting photos of exemplary yards with tips for a slide show to be presented at Backyard Biodiversity Day at Mead Botanical Garden October 18, 2014. We are in planning stages with the Tarflower and Cuplet Fern chapters of the Florida Native Plant Society for a *Landscape Tour* emphasizing Wildlife friendly yards on Saturday, April 11, 2015. If you can help with this effort, please let Deborah Green know at (407) 637-2525.

## This Month's Program: September 18, 2014 "Water, Land and Birds - Conserving All That Makes Florida Special" by Eric Draper

Orange Audubon Society will proudly host Eric Draper, Executive Director, Audubon Florida, as speaker for our first meeting of the program year on Thursday, September 18, at 7 p.m. Eric will illustrate some of Florida's diverse ecological treasures, tell us of threats, and share the tools supported by Audubon Florida to preserve "all that makes Florida special." Among these tools is passage of Amendment One to provide a stable, dedicated funding source for the acquisition of conservation and recreation lands in Florida.

Eric is recognized as a leading advocate for Everglades restoration, water resource protection and land conservation. He leads a staff of 58 people statewide, raises a \$5 million budget and is our chief lobbyist before the Florida Legislature and executive agencies.



Eric Draper

A Florida native, he has worked in conservation for his entire career. Join us September 18th to welcome Eric and hear an inspiring and thought-provoking program.

Deborah Green, Programs Co-chair

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) programs are free & no reservations are necessary. Programs are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month (September–June) and all but June start at 7:00 p.m. in the Camellia Room at

Harry P. Leu Gardens  
1920 North Forest Ave., Orlando, FL 32803

For map and directions, visit:  
[www.leugardens.org/plan/directions/](http://www.leugardens.org/plan/directions/)



## Help Protect and Preserve Florida's Water, Wildlands and Wildlife



Many of us signed the The Florida Water and Land Legacy petition and some even collected signatures. Now is the time to tell everyone we know to **Vote Yes on Amendment 1** on the **November 4 Ballot**.

This amendment will guarantee a dedicated source of funds for the Land Acquisition Trust Fund “to acquire, restore, improve, and manage conservation

lands.” These monies to protect Florida’s environment will be 33% of net revenues from the existing excise tax on real estate transactions (doc stamps). This is not a new tax and a portion of these funds have historically gone to land acquisition to buy tracts of land as beloved as Wekiwa Springs State Park. But since 2009, the legislature has diverted the previously designated portion of the doc stamps to other purposes. Amendment 1 will prohibit the legislature from raiding this trust fund.

Florida has many critical funding needs, including education, health care, public safety and transportation—but water and land conservation are a vital component of Florida’s future. When the state budget is more than \$60 billion, this amendment would set aside less than 1% for water and land conservation. This isn’t a matter of cutting other vital services; the amendment would take an amount that had been used for water and land conservation and dedicate it for that same purpose, but with constitutional protections. The amendment would have very little real impact on existing state funds for other services.

Can you help by telling others about the importance of voting **Yes on One**? Go to the website <http://voteyeson1fl.org/> and order **Yes on One** buttons to wear and give out, literature, signs and other items.

Voter registration cuts off a month before the November 4 election (October 6), so please make sure everyone of voting age is registered and plans to get out to vote. For complete text of the proposed Amendment 1 or more about the campaign visit <http://floridawaterlandlegacy.org>.

The purpose and dedication of Orange Audubon Society (OAS) is to promote public understanding of, and an interest in, wildlife and the environment that supports it. OAS’ education programs foster the recognition of the tangible and intangible values in the remaining natural areas of Florida and the world, and our responsibility for the conservation of the Earth’s natural ecosystems and the services that they provide for the health of the planet.

### Orange Audubon Society

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The *OAS's* Newsletter is published monthly from September through June and is sent to all members of the Orange Audubon Society.

## Thank you to the OAS's Labeling Committee

Now that Orange Audubon Society has “Gone Green,” the very important labeling committee is taking a rest. Labeling and mailing newsletters to our ~ 2000 plus member households has been a big volunteer effort. We thank Mike Daley who maintains the member database and who printed the labels as well as helped label, Randy Snyder and Mary Keim, who organized and hosted this volunteer effort at their home, Loretta Satterthwaite and Bob Stamps, Christine Brown and Richard Poole, Vic and Joan Cooper, and many other volunteers. On behalf of OAS, thank you!

*Deborah Green, President*



## **Autumn Bird Walks in Mead Botanical Garden**

### **Saturdays – October 4, 11, 18, 25, and November 1, 2014**



Photo by Deborah Green

Fall migration is here. To celebrate, Orange Audubon Society is hosting bird walks in Mead Botanical Garden on Saturdays from October 4 through November 1. Each walk will be led by an experienced birder. To entice more people to experience the pleasures of birding and become aware of this gem in Winter Park, walks are free and open to the public and no registration is needed.

Mead Botanical Garden, with as many as 23 warbler species seen in a single fall season, is among the best migration traps in Central Florida. The garden provides a place to rest with food, water, and shelter for the migrating birds as they pass through to their winter quarters as far south as South America. A creek runs through it on its way from Lake Sue to Lake Virginia. This creek, a pond, a wetlands area, and a higher sand hill area all provide habitats birds need. Barred Owls, Red-shouldered and Cooper's Hawks nest here. From 2005 through 2010 Dexter Richardson and a team of volunteers documented over 160 species of birds in Mead Botanical Garden.

The walks will start at 8:00 a.m. and should last 2 to 3 hours at a casual pace. A limited number of loaner binoculars will be available. Mead Botanical Garden is located at 1500 S. Denning Drive at the intersection with Garden Drive, two blocks east of Orlando Avenue (Hwy. 17-92). For additional information contact Larry Martin, OAS-Mead Liaison, at (407) 647-5834.

## **Photography Workshop with Award-Winner Jack Rogers**

### **Saturday – November 8, 2014**

Award-winning bird and nature photographer, Jack Rogers, will lead a Photography Workshop on November 8, 2014, at Orlando Wetlands Park, 25155 Wheeler Rd, Christmas, FL 32709. The workshop, which complements Orange Audubon Society's 2015 Chertok Florida Native Nature Photography Contest, is also a special fundraiser. All proceeds will benefit OAS.

Jack, who teaches at Valencia College East Campus, has traveled extensively throughout Florida photographing birds and other wildlife in their native habitats. As this fundraising workshop demonstrates, he supports Florida's conservation organizations and his images are featured on their websites, pamphlets, and signposts across the state. His Painted Bunting image, which won 1st Place in OAS' 2014 photo contest, is featured on OAS' annual brochure cover and website: [www.orangeaudubonfl.org](http://www.orangeaudubonfl.org).

The workshop is designed for beginner to intermediate level photographers with instruction personalized to individual needs and experience level. Jack will share tips and techniques to instantly improve skills and avoid pitfalls. The workshop begins at daybreak with a hands-on sunrise photography session. Participants will walk through the wetlands as Jack discusses how to anticipate photo opportunities. In addition to reviewing lighting angles, exposure and perspective, the session will also focus on understanding subject behavior.

After 2–2 ½ hours in the field, the group will return to the education center for an indoor session that utilizes Jack's images and handout materials to illustrate selection of camera settings, application of basic concepts and recommended nature photography techniques. Any level of equipment is appropriate for this workshop.

Registration is required and space is limited to 12 adult participants of beginner to intermediate skill levels. The cost is \$60 (Audubon members) and \$75 (non-members). For additional workshop information, please contact Jack at [jrogers62@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jrogers62@cfl.rr.com) or (407) 341-7709. To register, please contact Teresa at [mwilliams@cfl.rr.com](mailto:mwilliams@cfl.rr.com) or (407) 644-0796.



## Central Florida Butterfly Identification Workshop Saturday – October 11, 2014

Orange Audubon Society is offering a fall Butterfly Identification Workshop. The 8-hour workshop is Saturday, October 11, from 8:30 a.m.–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 shown 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](mailto:rssmhk@gmail.com) or (407) 851-5416. Participants should bring drink and lunch and wear appropriate field attire including close-toed shoes you don't mind getting wet.

Cost is \$25 for Audubon members; \$40 for non-members; and \$10 for children 12 or younger with a registered adult, payable to Orange Audubon Society. Non-members can join when registering and pay \$45, which includes butterfly workshop registration plus introductory 3-way annual membership in the Orange, National and Florida Audubon Societies (\$20 promotional rate). Such new memberships must be paid directly to OAS, as instructed when you register. The workshop is limited to 16 students and registration is required. To reserve a space, contact Teresa at [mwilliams@cfl.rr.com](mailto:mwilliams@cfl.rr.com) or (407) 644-0796.



Great Purple Hairstreak by Mary Keim

## Conservation Committee Members Needed, No Experience Necessary

Central Florida is always one of the first in Florida where development picks up when the economy picks up. With growth comes environmental problems from water quality and quantity, to invasive species, and to clashes with wildlife such as bears. Orange Audubon Society needs your help. You do not need to be a scientist or public speaker. Simply attending meetings to show support and taking notes can help. We need to be alerted to what is going on when it is still early in the process because it is so much easier to deal with any threat or other situation at its outset. Also, writing to key people and/or letters to the editor can make a difference; we can provide all the key information to you to make writing easier.

We need to communicate and try to find common ground with those who have somewhat or vastly different views than we do. We continue trying to get people outdoors to enjoy it—in whatever way they may, even if we disagree with their methods of “enjoyment”. Once they are outdoors and loving it, we find they are more willing and better able to assist in the battle to keep green space present and useable. If you would be willing to help the Conservation Committee, please contact Bob Stamps at (407) 886-2925 or [rhs-oas@att.net](mailto:rhs-oas@att.net).

## 2-hour ‘Workday’ at Genius Drive Nature Preserve Sunday – September 28, 2014

A 2-hour Workday is planned on Sunday, September 28, 2014, from 9–11 a.m. at the Genius Drive Nature Preserve in Winter Park. Volunteers bring their favorite gardening gloves and tools to help with weeding and mulching to ‘spruce up’ the restored cedar grove near Lake Mizell. Please contact Teresa at (407) 644-0796 or [mwilliams@cfl.rr.com](mailto:mwilliams@cfl.rr.com) if you can help. Further details will be provided.



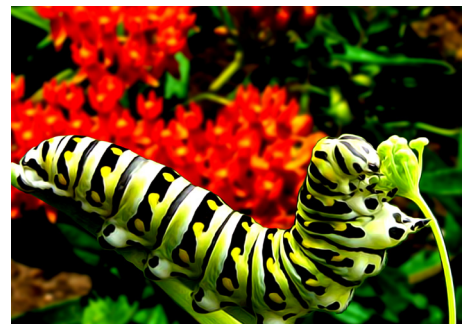
### **Limited Edition Field Trip Orlando Wetlands Park Saturday – September 27, 2014**

The amazing Orlando Wetlands Park near Christmas, FL, is the destination for the first Limited Edition field trip of our new season. Limited Edition field trips are led by popular bird guide Bob Sanders and limited to 15 people. With September migrants, returning wintering species, and resident birds, this field trip should be a great birding experience.

Cost is \$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 Bob Sanders at (407) 454-0542. Our next Limited Edition field trip will be to Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, Titusville, on October 19, 2014.

### **Backyard Biodiversity Day at Mead Botanical Garden Saturday – October 18, 2014**

Orange Audubon Society is teaming up again with the Florida Native Plant Society and Mead Botanical Garden, Inc., to sponsor Backyard Biodiversity Day on October 18, 2014, from 9:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m. at Mead Botanical Garden in Winter Park. Featured presentations are Landscaping for Wildlife, Native Pollinators, The Importance of Biodiversity, and a new workshop this year is How to Design Your Yard to Add Native Plants. Interpretive hikes include Edible Plants, Plant Identification, Amphibians and Reptiles of Mead Gardens, and Birding for the Whole Family. A variety of exhibitors and food trucks will be there, and native plants will be sold. This year the October OAS field trip will be in conjunction with Backyard Biodiversity Day. [Mark your calendar!](#)



### **Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) Fall 2014 Beginners' Bird Watching Class Saturdays – October 4, 11 and 18, 2014**

Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) Bob Sanders will teach a Beginners' Bird Watching Class this fall. Bob originated OAS' popular Limited Edition Field Trips and Birds of Prey ID Classes while serving on the OAS board; he has taught "Beautiful Birds of Central Florida" for the Elderhostel/Exploritas program and is an independent birding guide who has escorted U.S., Canadian and European visitors to some of Central Florida's best birding spots.

The class is intended to teach or enhance skills in identifying bird species using sight, sound, behavior and other clues. It includes an "outdoor" classroom session and mini-field trip on October 4th at Orlando Wetlands Park (OWP) and 2 field sessions on October 11th and 18th at OWP and Lake Jesup, respectively; all sessions are 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Goals of the course are to increase knowledge and awareness of North American bird species; teach basic birding principles and bird ID techniques—including bird habitat and anatomy; provide binocular basics (OAS has "loaner" binoculars for use during the class) and tips on using field guides and checklists; and discuss birding ethics. If you miss a fall session, you may take a make-up session during the spring 2015 class at no additional charge. No participant substitutions please.

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. Non-members can join when registering and pay \$50, which includes class registration (member price \$30) plus introductory 3-way annual membership in Orange, National and Florida Audubon Societies (\$20 promotional rate). Such new memberships must be paid directly to OAS, as instructed when you register, by contacting Teresa at [mwilliams@cfl.rr.com](mailto:mwilliams@cfl.rr.com) or (407) 644-0796. For questions about the class, contact Bob at (407) 454-0542.



## 2014 Chertok Florida Native Nature Photo Contest Results

The Orange Audubon Society (OAS) sponsored Youth, Novice and Advanced competition categories in its 2014 (26<sup>th</sup> Annual) Kit and Sidney Chertok Florida Native Nature Photography Contest, themed *Florida Native Nature*. Winners were announced on June 19<sup>th</sup> at Harry P. Leu Gardens, Orlando, where approximately 220 members and guests enjoyed an array of hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction and a presentation of all eligible contest entries.

**Youth category winners:** 1st Place, Matthew Guernier, Windermere—*Slither and Scales – Yellow Rat Snake\**; 2nd Place, Mason Theurer, Kissimmee—*Sandhill Crane*; 3rd Place, Alyssa Degler, Maitland—*Eastern Grey Squirrel*; and Honorable Mentions: Jordan Clark, Orlando—(2) *The Colorful Beak – Cattle Egret and Lunch – Great Blue Heron*; Reese Rubio, Maitland—*Alligator Carcass*; and Mason Theurer—(2) *Sunset and Green Heron*.

**Novice category winners:** 1st and 2nd Place, Steven Long, Clermont—*Long-legged Fly – Condyllostylus and Mating Cone Ants – Dorymyrmex*; 3rd Place, Kimberly Marshall, Orlando—*Stealth – American Bittern*; and Honorable Mentions: Michele Flacco, Ocoee—*Luna Moth among the Leaves*; Gini Henry, Christmas—*See Mom, I can Fly – Great Egrets*; Tammi S. Jones, Apopka—*Duckweed and Cypress*; Mark Kosinsky, Orlando—*Alligator Eye*; Steven Long—*Rambur's Forktail Damselfly*; and Bonnie Vanzant, Mount Dora—*Exploring Mangrove Tree Crabs*.

**Advanced category winners:** 1st Place, Jack Rogers, Oviedo—*Pretty Boy – Painted Bunting\**; 2nd Place, Jess Yarnell, Winter Garden—*Burrowing Owllet Yawn*; 3rd Place, Jake Paredes, Boca Raton—*Nature's Jewelry – Zebra Heliconian Butterfly Egg on Corky Stem Passion Vine*; and Honorable Mentions: George Carson, Orlando—*Green Lynx Spider Feeding*; Chris Heisey, Mechanicsburg, PA—*Bad Day – Great Egret and Frog*; Robert Kimbrell, Ft. Myers—*Grace – Reddish Egret*; Michael Libbe, Casselberry—*Reaching for the Heavens – Great Blue Heron*; Debra Schmidt, Deltona—*Snuggle Time – Sandhill Cranes\**; Debbie Tubridy, Hollywood—*Look Up Here – Burrowing Owl Young\**; Jim Urbach, Sanford—*Peek-A-Boo – Barred Owllet*; and Jess Yarnell—*Sandhill Crane Colts*.

Images marked with an asterisk (\*) are on the 2014–2015 OAS brochure. All winning images are on OAS' website: [www.orangeaudubonfl.org](http://www.orangeaudubonfl.org) where 2015 contest information will soon be available. OAS sincerely appreciates all photographers who entered the 2014 contest and looks forward to your participation in 2015.

Teresa Williams, OAS' CFNNPC Chair

## Fiscal Year 2014 in Review

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) ended fiscal year 2014 with an increase in net assets of \$20,178. This included income from regular operations of \$14,022, plus unrealized gains on long-term investments of \$6,156. A Silent Auction during the June 2014 Chertok program generating \$4,062 plus donations of \$882 solicited by two Birdathon participants were designated for OAS' future nature education center. Expenditures of \$23,547 included \$5,551 for printing and mailing costs for ten monthly OAS's newsletters. The transition to electronic "GO GREEN" newsletters beginning in fiscal year 2014–2015 will significantly reduce or eliminate this cost.

OAS' greatest resource is you—its dedicated board, other members and friends who contribute time and other resources to help OAS achieve one of its major strategic goals: financial stability with a balanced budget and increased funds for education programs and a future nature education center. Fiscal stability, which contributed to OAS' being named the 2012 Chapter of The Year by Audubon Florida, will ensure OAS' future and its continued ability to be a strong voice for conservation and the environment. OAS' efforts to secure permanent funds for educational programs will also ensure longevity of activities that shape the next generation of environmental stewards. To obtain additional financial details, please contact Teresa Williams, Treasurer, at [mwilliams@cfl.rr.com](mailto:mwilliams@cfl.rr.com) or (407) 644-0796.



## **Audubon Adventures and Junior Audubon**

Education and conservation are Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) most important missions. Through National Audubon Society, chapters can purchase Audubon Adventures, an excellent nature education resource for grades 3–5. The purchase is easy. Funding and identifying teachers who need the resource are OAS' challenges. At the Backyard Biodiversity Day (see article, page 5)



OAS is offering a workshop for teachers on how best to utilize Audubon Adventures. OAS would also like to offer classroom presentations on birds and nature. If you know of a child whose teacher might be interested in either of these resources, or if you are a retired teacher or otherwise can present well to children, please call Dominique at [shimizu\\_wcs@yahoo.com](mailto:shimizu_wcs@yahoo.com) or (407) 287-4078.

Additionally, OAS would like to develop Junior Audubon activities as other chapters are doing. New OAS board member Brook Rohman is offering OAS' first official Junior Audubon field trip at Orlando Wetlands Park on November 8, 2014, from 8:30–11:00 a.m. If you know a child who would like to go on youth-oriented field trips, contact Brook at (407) 921-8008.

OAS would also like to engage older youth—high school and college students. Do you have ideas about how we could accomplish this? If so, please contact Deborah at [sabalpress@mac.com](mailto:sabalpress@mac.com) or (407) 637-2525. Thank for your help with nature education!

## **OAS at Oakland Heritage Festival Saturday – October 25, 2014**

Again this year, Orange Audubon Society (OAS) will participate in the Oakland Heritage Festival at Speer Park in Oakland on October 25, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We will be concentrating our efforts on explaining “**Vote Yes on 1**” since this event is so close to Election Day and we need a 60% majority for Amendment 1 to pass. Remember that passage of this Amendment is needed to conserve, protect, and manage Florida's lands and waters that are so vital to our well-being, our wildlife and our tourism-based economy.

We could use help on this outreach and also talking about OAS and our programs, field trips, conservation and education activities, bird and butterfly classes, special events (everything listed in the new 2014–15 brochure!). Help is needed setting up for the event (~8:00 a.m.) and putting things away at the end of the day. You will have time at this laid-back event to wander around and enjoy the rest of the festival—including taking a guided boat tour on Lake Apopka (always a sell-out). If you can help at this event, please contact me at [LNS-oas@att.net](mailto:LNS-oas@att.net) or (407) 886-2925, to let me know. Thanks.

*Loretta Satterthwaite*

## **Audubon Assembly 2014 at Hutchinson Island: Make It A Big Year for Florida's Land, Water, and Wildlife Friday and Saturday – October 17 and 18, 2014**

Audubon Florida's signature conservation event brings together representatives of Audubon's 44 chapters and 35,000 members with conservation leaders, scientists, educators and policy makers. Through informative field trips, inspiring speakers and thought-provoking learning sessions, Audubon plans to join together people of all ages and backgrounds in our common interest of protecting Florida's remarkable natural resources.

Audubon Assembly offers you the opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals, to participate in forming Audubon's 2014 conservation priorities, to join exciting field trips, and to learn new conservation skills. For more information and to register online go to <http://fl.audubon.org/audubon-assembly-2014-make-it-big-year-floridas-land-water-and-wildlife>. We hope to see you there!



**Orange Audubon Society Board of Directors 2014–2015****PRESIDENT**

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**SIGN UP FOR THE ELECTRONIC VERSION OF *OAS/s* AND GO GREEN!**  
 SEND YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS TO OUR MEMBERSHIP DATA CHAIR, MIKE  
 ([MIKED129E@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MIKED129E@GMAIL.COM)). SUBJECT: “*OAS/s* GOING GREEN”

JOIN OAS' [MEETUP GROUP](#)

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**Calendar of Events**

**September Program: Water, Land and Birds - Conserving All That Makes Florida Special** by Eric Draper.

September 18, 2014. See page 1.

**Pine Lily Preserve Field Trip, Bithlo**

September 20, 2014. See page 1.

**Limited Edition Field Trip to Orlando Wetlands Park.**

September 27, 2014. See page 5.

**Genius Drive Nature Preserve Workday.**

September 28, 2014. See page 4.

**Beginners' Bird Watching Class**

October 4, 11, and 18, 2014. See page 5.

**Mead Botanical Garden Bird Walks:**

Saturdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25, and November 1, 2014. See page 3.

**Butterfly Identification Workshop.**

October 11, 2014. See page 4.

**Audubon Assembly, Hutchinson Island**

October 17 and 18, 2014. See page 7.

**Backyard Bio-Diversity Day, Mead Botanical Garden, Winter Park**

October 18, 2014. See page 5.

**Oakland Heritage Festival**

October 25, 2014. See page 7.