



Top: Free-tailed Bat, Bottom Right: Shari Blissett-Clark with Free-tailed Bat; Bottom Left: Evening Bat. Photos Courtesy Shari Blissett-Clark

This Month's Program:

October 15, 2015 Beneficial Bats

Presented by
Shari Blissett-Clark

As Halloween approaches, bats are used as an icon of spookiness, but bats actually contribute to a healthy, balanced environment by consuming insects.

Shari Blissett-Clark's fascination with bats began more than 20 years ago when she partnered with Bat Conservation International as a bat house researcher.

She has since built and erected many successful bat houses throughout Florida and is licensed to keep bats for education.

Shari comes to us from Brevard County, where she serves on the boards of Bat Belfrys, the Florida Bat Conservancy, the Florida Native Plant Society, and the Brevard Botanical Garden. She focuses on Florida native bats only.

For the October Orange Audubon Society program, Shari will debunk the common myths that give rise to unfounded fear of these flying mammals.

Attendees will have an opportunity to meet two of the most common species in Central Florida.

Join us October 15th for a fascinating program, suitable for children and all ages.

Brook Rohman, Programs Co-Chair

Monthly Field Trip:

October 17, 2015 Hal Scott Regional Preserve and Park

On Saturday, October 17, 2015, OAS will visit Hal Scott Regional Preserve and Park. This 9000+ acre property in east Orange County, straddles the Econlockhatchee River.

We will walk about 4 miles through pine flatwoods to the Econ's riverine swamp. The pace will be slow to observe plants and animals along the way, with sightings of endangered Red-cockaded Woodpeckers possible. For more information on the property, see: <http://floridaswater.com/recreationguide/halscott/>



Red-cockaded Woodpecker
Photo: Mary Keim

Meet at 8:00 am in the parking lot on Dallas Blvd, (between Paddock and Peabody) Orlando, FL 32833 in the Wedgfield subdivision.

Bring drink, sun protection, insect protection, birding gear, and lunch (for after the hike). Free. No facilities. No registration is required. Please join us. If you have questions about the trip, contact us at rsmhk@gmail.com.

*Mary Keim and Randy Snyder,
Field Trip Committee*

Green PLACE Photos

Photos taken at Orange County Green PLACE properties, such as Hal Scott Regional Preserve and Park, and entered in the Chertok contest will be eligible to win bonus prizes. On the October 17th field trip and also the October 10th trip (p.5), bring your camera!

Thank you to all who have already donated in response to Orange Audubon Society's once-a-year Letter Appeal sent to you in September to request financial support. If you have not already done so, we hope you will consider supporting your local Audubon chapter.

Orange Audubon Society programs are free and no reservations are necessary.

Programs are the 3rd 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/



Working Lands Report



Audubon Florida's Regional Conservation Committees (RCCs), which consist of Conservation Chairs and other representatives from all of the Audubon chapters in a region, meet quarterly, sharing efforts, challenges, and successes. Charles Lee, Director of Advocacy for Audubon Florida, participates in the Central Florida RCC.

Prior to Audubon Assembly on Friday October 23rd (p.6), the RCC has updated 2016 Regional Conservation Priorities for Central Florida. The two Central Florida Priorities are to Protect, Enhance, and Acquire Conservation Lands and to Protect Water Quality and Water Resources.

The following report focuses on the first of these priorities, which also fits with National Audubon's Conservation Priority of *Working Lands* (September OASis). In Osceola County and farther south, ranch land is generally home to abundant wildlife. The area around the Kissimmee River is the headwaters of the Everglades, and is now referred to as "the Northern Everglades." OAS' Limited Edition Field Trip to Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area in Osceola County (p.6) is specifically for the fantastic wildlife viewing opportunities in this area.

North Sector Ranch Plan

Orange Audubon Society Conservation Committee members Bob Stamps and Loretta Satterthwaite joined representatives from Kissimmee Valley Audubon, other Audubon chapters, Audubon Florida, and other environmental groups in meeting with Osceola County planning staff and representatives of the Deseret Ranch, owned by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. The issue was the County's North Ranch Sector Plan covering 133,000 acres.

Following this input, Osceola County paid for an independent peer review of the plan by three ecology experts, who found that 19,107 additional acres should be conserved.

A conservation easement is a restriction placed on a piece of property to protect its associated resources. The landowner sells the easement

in a legally binding agreement that prevents development from taking place while the land remains in private hands. Conservation Easements extend conservation dollars by protecting ecologically important lands without fee purchase, freeing limited funds for other projects, while supporting continuation of the County's agricultural economy. Amendment 1's reauthorization of state funding for Florida Forever included emphasis on use of Conservation Easements, and there are federal programs also that fund conservation easements.

At their meeting on September 21st, Osceola County Commissioners approved a new urban growth boundary incorporating part of Deseret Ranch, securing 2/3 of Osceola County as agricultural and rural lands. Commissioners asked County staff to present recommendations concerning establishment and funding of a County program to acquire Conservation Easements from willing sellers and to advocate for state funding for these at upcoming meetings of the Osceola Legislative Delegation.

Kilbee Ranch

Just at press time, we have good news of approval for a Conservation Easement on 1,300 acres of the Kilbee Ranch in Seminole County using Florida's Rural and Family Lands Protection funding and federal funds. This wildlife-rich property is near the St. Johns and Econlockhatchee Rivers. Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam strongly supported this Conservation Easement. Perhaps all the petitions that reached him and CFO Jeff Atwater prior to confirmation of the new Department of Environment Secretary helped convince them of the importance of conservation lands. The Cabinet also unanimously approved a second Conservation Easement for 1,600 acres on the JB Ranch in eastern Collier County, a panther stronghold.

We thank Charles Lee and Eric Draper of Audubon Florida and all those who lobbied for conservation!

Orange Audubon's Conservation Committee needs reinforcements. Can you join our efforts? Please contact Conservation Chair Rick Baird at rbaird4@att.net. Thank you!

Deborah Green, President



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.

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The OASis (Orange Audubon Society Information Source) Newsletter is published monthly from September through June. The newsletter is posted on the OAS website, and a link is e-mailed to all OAS members.

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Foggy Morning Sunrise. 2015 Chertok Photo Contest Honorable Mention Winner, Advanced Amateur/Professional category. Photo: Myrna Erler-Bradshaw

No Foam Zone

A group of concerned Central Florida citizens want to see consumer foam packaging (polystyrene) eliminated in Orlando, focusing on single use foam containers by restaurants, food vendors and consumers. Foam products are petroleum-based and never decompose. They break into tiny pieces, which are extremely difficult to remove from waterways, streets and parks. Each year, thousands of animals die after ingesting pieces of discarded foam containers. Bal Harbour, Bay Harbor Islands, Key Biscayne, Miami Beach, North Bay Village, and Surfside have banned polystyrene.

Orlando area restaurants that have eliminated use of styrofoam are Ethos Vegan Kitchen, Winter Park, Dandelion Communita Cafe, Orlando, and Green Day Cafe, Orlando.

Orange Audubon Society has joined The Foundation for Florida Environmental Protection, I.D.E.A.S. for us, Central Florida Surfrider Foundation, ECO-Action, and Sierra Club Central Florida Group in urging you to sign the petition to create a NO FOAM ZONE in Central Florida. The petition is on the website www.nofamzone.org.

In Case You Missed the Program.... Rehabilitating Birds of Prey

You've probably seen them as you drove along a country road looking for new avian species. Often perched on telephone wires or fence posts near woodlands, their tails pumping as they hunt for insects and small mammals, the American Kestrel has a boldly patterned head, rufous barred back, and lovely blue-gray wings.

At only about 9 inches long, our smallest--and perhaps most colorful falcon--is a species in trouble.

"American Kestrels throughout the U.S. are in decline and we are not sure why," said Carol McCorkle, co-founder of the Avian Reconditioning Center (ARC). "We lose 80 to 87 percent of first-year birds."

A certified veterinary technician, McCorkle has been working with raptors since 1986. Founded in 2002 by McCorkle and her husband Scott McCorkle, the ARC accepts raptors that have been injured to a degree that prevents them going out into the wild again.

Located on 10 acres in Apopka, the ARC staff use falconry techniques to evaluate a bird's chances for survival in the wild after recovering from an injury. Since January of 2015, the ARC admitted 107 raptors for rehabilitation. Seventy-nine of the birds were very young and required specialized care to prevent imprinting on humans and to provide proper interaction and stimulus.

"Falcor," a resident kestrel brought to the ARC with a broken wing, participates in education and outreach programs to the public. While bird lovers scrambled to photograph him, Falcor remained calm and cool as rehab specialist Paula Ashby strolled by with the kestrel perched on her gloved wrist.

"Sable," a gorgeous Short-tailed Hawk dark morph, also appeared for photographs. An elusive raptor that nests and breeds in Wekiwa Springs State Park, the Short-tailed Hawk lives only in Florida and into Central and South America. Soaring low over woodlands, it may be mistaken for a crow and shot as Sable was.

"Scooter," a prim Swallow-tailed Kite, can never be released into the wild because it has imprinted on humans. "Its rescuer kept it for too long," explained McCorkle. "If you find an injured bird, keep it safe and quiet and take it to your veterinarian, the Humane Society, or one of the rehabilitators listed on the [Orange Audubon Society website](http://www.OrangeAudubonSociety.org).

Finally "Quijote," a Crested Caracara, made a grand appearance. McCorkle pointed out that this was its very first time out in public. Caracaras are federally listed as Threatened. Best seen in the early morning or congregating around Turkey Vultures to share their carrion, the caracara is "a very smart bird," she said. Their life span, if they are lucky, can be 20 to 25 years. To learn more about the non-profit ARC, go to <http://www.arc4raptors.org/>.



"Falcor" American Kestrel Photo: Susan Kirby



Carol McCorkle showing "Quijote," a Crested Caracara, for the first time in public. Photo: Deborah Green

Linda Carpenter, Publicity Committee

October is Florida Native Plant Month

One of the best strategies to attract birds to your yard is to plant Florida native plants. These plants are eaten by caterpillars or other insects that are eaten by birds, or they attract birds for their seeds and fruits. The native plants are eaten by larvae of attractive butterflies, and they provide pollen and nectar for all kinds of pollinators. They provide cover for birds.

This is why Orange Audubon Society (OAS) collaborates at every opportunity with the local chapters of the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS), for example, by co-sponsoring Backyard Biodiversity Day. We hope you attend Backyard Biodiversity Day October 24th (see p.6), with a budget to buy native plants! At noon, Orange County's Florida Native Plant Month proclamation will be read by Commissioner Ted Edwards.

Continuing OAS's collaboration with the local FNPS chapters, a Florida Native Plant and Wildlife Friendly Yards Tour will be offered again in 2016. The date will be April 16, and this year's tour will be to homes and one commercial landscape farther north than last year, into Seminole County. If you participated on the tour last year and would like to help the organizers as a volunteer at one of the sites, please contact me at sabalpress@mac.com. Helpers and participating homeowners will have the opportunity for a preview tour of all of the sites two weeks in advance.

OAS Field Trip Chairs Mary Keim and Randy Snyder have a Florida native and wildlife friendly yard that was a popular stop on the 2015 tour. When asked what plants she is particularly enthusiastic about, Mary cited Frog Fruit, *Phyla nodiflora*, also called Turkey Tangle and several other names. This is certainly because this plant is host to larvae of the Phaon Crescent (*Phyciodes phaon*) and White Peacock (*Anartia jatrophae*) as well as a favorite nectar plant of many pollinators. Mary and Randy are butterfly experts (see page 7 for a description of their upcoming butterfly workshop). OAS' brochure "Bird- and Butterfly-Friendly Plants for Central Florida," developed by Mary, is available at Backyard Biodiversity Day, at most OAS events, and at OAS meetings.

My new favorite is American Pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*). It is considered a weed by many people, but I find it gives a bit of color and its berries are greatly appreciated by Gray Catbirds, other birds and other wildlife. Pokeweed plants grow over 6 feet tall with red stems, poisonous if ingested. When they become unsightly late in the season, they are easy to cut back. For other suggestions of native and wildlife friendly species, see my article "Planting to Attract Wildlife" in the October 2014 OAS*is* (p.6), available online [at this link](#). And please put Backyard Biodiversity Day October 24th on your calendar!



Above, Fiery Skipper (*Hylephila phyleus*) on Turkey Tangle Fogfruit. Below, American Pokeweed. Photos: Mary Keim

Thanks To Chertok Photo Contest Judges

Artist Barbara Tiffany, naturalist Allan Jahner and photographer Jack Rogers were Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) 2015 Chertok Florida Native Nature Photography Contest judges. Barbara is a painting instructor, Director of Painting and Curator of Exhibitions at Crealdé School of Art in Winter Park. Raised in Central Florida, Barbara has made art her career, working in commercial art, doing private commissions, teaching, participating in outdoor art festivals, exhibiting, and winning numerous state and national awards and judging art and photography competitions.

Allan Jahner is an avid birder and co-owner/operator of Wild Birds Unlimited (WBU) in Winter Springs. This North Dakotan's love of nature deepened after moving to Florida. Through the WBU Pathways to Nature Conservation Fund, Allan has helped to build the WBU trail at Merritt Island and teamed with Audubon to provide children with scholarships to summer camps across the country. On January 21, 2016 WBU and proprietors Allan and Janey Jahner will sponsor OAS' guest speaker event—The Big Year by Greg Miller.

Jack Rogers is an award-winning, widely published bird and nature photographer whose work was recently featured on the cover of *Nature's Best Photography* magazine. Jack teaches Earth Sciences and occasionally nature photography at Valencia College East Campus. A constant supporter of Florida's conservation organizations, you will see his images used on their websites, pamphlets, and signposts across the state. On November 14, 2015 Jack will teach OAS' first family photo workshop aimed at children (and their grown-ups) with the goal of enhancing the outdoor experience for families and encouraging the next generation of nature photo shutterbugs.

OAS thanks Barbara, Allan and Jack for contributing their valuable time and talents to help make the 2015 Chertok photography contest a success.

Teresa Williams, Chertok Photography Contest Chair

Beginners' Bird Watching Class

October 3, 10 and 17, 2015

Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) Bob Sanders will teach a Beginners' Bird Watching Class this October.



Bob Sanders. Photo: Joyce Stefancic

An "outdoor" classroom session and mini-field trip on October 3rd at Orlando Wetlands Park (OWP) will be followed by field sessions on October 10th and 17th 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 2016 class.

The class is limited to 20 students and registration is required. 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 rate).

New memberships are paid directly to OAS, as instructed when you register. Contact Teresa at (407) 644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl.rr.com. For questions about the class, contact Bob at (407) 459-5617.

Fall Bird Walks at Mead Botanical Garden

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) is hosting fall migration bird walks at Mead Botanical Garden 1500 S. Denning Drive, Winter Park on Saturdays, October 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, 2015.

To entice people to experience the pleasures of birding and become aware of this great location in Winter Park, the walks are free and open to the public with no registration needed. Each walk will be led by an experienced birding leader.

The walks start at 8:00 a.m. and will last 2 to 3 hours. The pace will be slow with lots of stopping to look at birds and will cover as much of the park as possible. Loaner binoculars will be available. If you need to borrow a pair, please arrive a little early to sign them out and to be shown how to use them for the most enjoyable experience.

For information, contact OAS-Mead Liaison Larry Martin at (407) 647-5834 or lmartin5@msn.com

September Field Trip Report

Seven attended the September 19th Orange Audubon Society field trip to Isle of Pine Preserve. At least 28 bird species were observed including Common Ground-Dove, four woodpecker species including Red-headed Woodpecker, Carolina Chickadee, Bachman's Sparrow and five warbler species including American Redstart and Yellow-throated Warbler. Other vertebrates included Yellow Rat Snake and Eastern Cottontail. Invertebrates included Red-femured Spotted Orbweaver, Praying Mantis, Moustached Tiger Beetle, Cloudless Sulphur and Carolina Satyr. Wildflowers in bloom included Catesby's Lily, Yellow Stargrass, Pale Meadowbeauty, Vanillaleaf, Coastalplain Chaffhead and Gayfeather. Other plants of interest were Cinnamon Fern, Club-moss and Needleroot Airplant Orchid. The trail was wet to about knee high due to recent rains. Thanks to the attendees for their good nature as we waded through the woods.

Mary Keim, Field Trip Chair

Photographer's Green PLACE Nature Walk **October 10, 2015**

Join Orange County Environmental Protection Division, Saturday, October 10th, 8 to 11 a.m. at Savage Christmas Creek Preserve, 11046 NW Christmas Road, Christmas (2.7 miles north of SR 50 on West Christmas Road) for a free guided hike through old Florida focusing on native species identification and nature photography.

The preserve is 1,126-acres, featuring pine flatwoods, cypress domes and sandhill community. Frank Weber, professional photographer, will join the walk to offer tips on how to create captivating images.

If you enter your photos taken on any Orange County Natural Land (a.k.a. a Green PLACE property) in the 2016 Orange Audubon Society Chertok Nature Photography Contest, entries will be eligible for inclusion in Orange County's 2017 Natural Lands/Nature Calendar and eligible to win bonus prizes.

Green PLACE properties are listed on www.ocfl.net/epd under Natural Lands.

Reserve your space in this free walk by October 7 and direct any questions to orangetogreen@ocfl.net or call 407-836-1400.

Wings and Wildflowers Festival **October 2-4, 2015**

The fourth Annual Wings and Wildflowers Festival will be October 2-4, 2015 at Venetian Gardens in Leesburg. Native plants and birds will be the focus, as well as introducing Lake County's conservation lands.

For information about the festival, see www.wingsandwildflowers.com.

Kathy Rigling, one of Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) newest Board members will be there representing Cornell Labs' Bird Sleuth Program and OAS. If questions or if you wish to join her at the OAS table, contact her at riglingk@aol.com or (407) 488-9559.

**Limited Edition Field Trip
Three Lakes Wildlife
Management Area
October 18, 2015**

Three Lakes Wildlife Management Area in Osceola County is the destination on October 18th for Orange Audubon Society's second Limited Edition field trip of the new season.

Limited Edition field trips are led by popular birding guide Bob Sanders and limited to 15 people.

Three Lakes and nearby Joe Overstreet Road offer outstanding scenery and some very interesting birds.

Some possibilities include: Red-Cockaded Woodpecker, Bachman's Sparrow, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Short-tailed Hawk, White-tailed Kite, Snail Kite, Crested Caracara, Burrowing Owl, Sandhill and Whooping Cranes, and lots of Bald Eagles. The Florida Grasshopper Sparrow does breed here but in such small numbers that, unfortunately, it will be very difficult to find, but we'll try.

Because it's a bit of a drive to get there, participants should plan on a long day. Definitely pack a lunch!

This trip is limited to 15 people and has a cost of \$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) 459-5617.

**Backyard Biodiversity
Day, October 24, 2015**

For the 3rd year, Orange Audubon Society is teaming up with the Florida Native Plant Society and Mead Botanical Garden, Inc. to sponsor Backyard Biodiversity Day at Mead Botanical Garden (MBG) in Winter Park. The event will be October 24th from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



Explaining about bird nest boxes at Backyard Biodiversity Day. Photo: Deborah Green

This free event will host a native plant sale, the proceeds of which will benefit MBG in restoring its upland habitat. Come early to buy the best selection of native plants to attract birds, butterflies and other pollinators to your landscape. Walks, talks, vendors, music, and food trucks will make this a fun event. We hope to see you there!

Orlando's Cox Conserves Heroes

Chuck O'Neal received the most votes in the 2015 Cox Conserves Heroes competition and has won \$10,000 for the League of Women Voters of Florida Education Fund. Runners-up Jim Thomas and Cathy Brown will receive \$5000 for the Oakland Nature Preserve and Florida Scrub Jay Trail.

**Audubon Assembly
2015 October 23-24, 2015
in Maitland — "Parks: The
Heart of Natural Florida"**

Audubon Florida's signature conservation event, Audubon Assembly, brings together representatives of Audubon Florida's 44 chapters with conservation leaders, scientists, educators and policy makers.

This year's Assembly, held at the Orlando Sheraton North in Maitland, has the theme "Parks: The Heart of Natural Florida." Florida's parks have been recognized three times—in 1999, 2005 and 2013—as the nation's best park system. No other state has earned the honor that many times. Last year our parks attracted more than 27 million visitors—and yet there are privatization threats.

Friday morning field trips, coordinated in part by Orange Audubon members, will be followed by Learning Sessions on Sea Level Rise and Coastal Bird Nesting Areas; Identifying Barriers and Crafting Solutions to Diversity in Conservation; and Making the Case for Florida's Conservation Lands to Public Officials. Participants will jointly develop best strategies.

Rafael Galvez, Artist and Director of Florida Keys Hawkwatch will be keynote speaker at the awards banquet Friday night. Saturday is the Parks Summit. For more information, please visit: <http://fl.audubon.org/audubon-assembly-2015-parks-heart-natural-florida>.

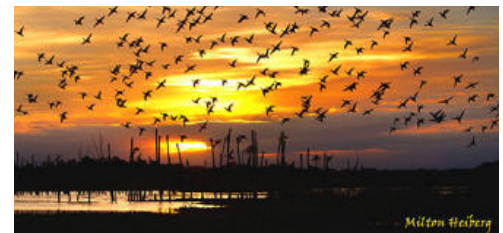
"Return to the Roost" Hayride at Orlando Wetlands Park, November 14, 2015

A hayride is a wonderful way to see the far reaches of Orlando Wetlands Park (OWP). Even more exciting is a sunset hayride in which you can watch wading birds "return to the roost."

As the sun sets we will see alligator eye shine. Flashlights may reveal ghostly Wilson's Snipes flying up as we pass. Your eyes adjust to the darkening sky, and night sounds will fill your senses. It is a unique experience.

This event on Saturday, November 14, 2015, 4:30-6:30 p.m., is an Orange Audubon Society fund-raiser. Cost is \$30 per person with 20 people maximum. OWP is located at 25155 Wheeler Rd, Christmas, FL 32709.

Contact Teresa Williams at mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or (407) 644-0796 to register. For additional information, contact Danielle Ponsolle at (407) 658-4869.



Orlando Wetlands Park at Sunset. Photo: Milton Heiberg

Conservation Leadership Initiative

Audubon Florida's Conservation Leadership Initiative (CLI) at Audubon Assembly on Friday October 23, 2015 is a unique chance to bridge generational gaps.

College students are introduced to Audubon conservation initiatives while Audubon chapter leaders, paired with them as mentors, learn how to better engage, communicate with and develop the next generation of conservation leaders.

Now in its 5th year, the CLI helps college students strengthen leadership skills, gain an understanding of future opportunities in conservation careers and engage with Audubon through chapters, internships and volunteer opportunities. Audubon is offering 25 scholarships to interested and qualified college students.

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) is sponsoring one local student and the participation of Melissa Gonzalez, a University of Central Florida (UCF) Environmental Studies student who participated last year.

Melissa was one of several students who joined OAS in Amendment 1 outreach efforts at UCF last fall.

With confidence in part from the CLI, Melissa applied for and secured two internships this past summer—one monitoring sea turtle nesting at the Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge with UCF's sea turtle program and the other for the U.S. Forest Service working with Red-cockaded Woodpeckers.

Because college students are very busy, it does take effort on the part of the chapter to bring a CLI graduate into the fold, but with Melissa it is working. She was voted onto the OAS Board last April, replacing Danny Raleigh, who is now in grad school in Texas. In addition to helping OAS with the Education Committee, Melissa is working toward starting a sub-group of OAS at UCF. We can recruit young people and the CLI can help!

Deborah Green, President

Butterfly Identification Workshop

October 25, 2015



White Peacock (*Anartia jatrophae*)
Photo: Mary Keim

Orange Audubon Society is offering a fall Butterfly Identification Workshop Sunday, October 25, 2015 from 8:30 a.m.– 5:00 p.m.

A slide presentation will start at 8:30 a.m. at the Orlando Wetlands Park (OWP) Education Center on Wheeler Rd in Christmas, FL. The field portions of the workshop will be at OWP and adjacent Seminole Ranch Conservation Area.

Instructors are Orange Audubon members and butterfly enthusiasts Randy Snyder and Mary Keim. If you have questions about workshop content, contact Randy and Mary at rsmhk@gmail.com or (407)851-5416.

Participants should bring drink and lunch and wear appropriate field attire. Close-toed shoes that can get wet are recommended. Close-focusing binoculars are helpful and will be available for use during the workshop.

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 with registration for \$45. The 3-way membership is in 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 or (407) 644-0796.

Oakland Heritage Festival

October 24, 2015

Again this year, Orange Audubon Society (OAS) will participate in the Oakland Heritage Festival at Speer Park in Oakland on October 24th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

This great day of family fun is presented by the Oakland Nature Preserve and Town of Oakland. It features Live Entertainment, Cultural Presentations, Hay Rides, Kid's Activities, Merchants and Vendors, Hot Food and Cold Drinks!

Kathy Rigling will be there for OAS. If questions or if you wish to join her at the OAS table, contact her at riglingk@aol.com or (407) 488-9559.

It's Lake Eola Fiesta Time!—Please Help

Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) annual participation in the Lake Eola Fiesta in the Park Arts and Crafts Festival is November 7th and 8th. This is OAS' biggest outreach event annually, and we need lots of help.

Advanced set-up of tent, tables, etc., on Friday evening November 6th around 5:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday (~8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. each day) mainly consist of setting up and taking down of merchandise and, the fun part—helping to sell merchandise and talking to people about OAS.

We need 3 or 4 people each day just for sales activities. Any time you can contribute would be appreciated. If you volunteer early, you can have your choice of day and time.

With enough volunteers, or volunteers who only wish to work with children, OAS could offer its kids' art table; however, unless we have enough volunteers, we will not be able to offer this fun, free children's activity.

Please contact Teresa to volunteer or if you have questions: mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or (407) 644-0796 (eve.). Then mark your calendar and commit to help OAS meet its financial and outreach goals. Thanks.

Teresa Williams, Treasurer

Youth Field Trip, November 7, 2015

Youth field trips allow children to observe and enjoy the natural world on easy hiking trails.

The second trip of the season is on November 7, 2015 at Central Winds Park, 1000 Central Winds Dr., Winter Springs, FL 32708. This site with boardwalk may allow us to pick up late fall migrants and wetland species. The walk starts at 8:00 a.m. in the parking lot. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

This trip is free and no reservations are necessary. Loaner binoculars are available. Please contact leader Brook Rohman at brookrohman@gmail.com or (407) 921-8008 if you have questions.



Youth/Family Photography Workshop, November 14, 2015



Mason Theurer – Avid Nature Photographer and Past Winner of the Chertok Photo Contest Youth Category. Photo: Jenny Welch

Award-winning bird and nature photographer, Jack Rogers, will lead a Youth/Family Photography Workshop on November 14, 2015 from 7:00–11:00 a.m. at Orlando Wetlands Park. Children should be age 10–17 and accompanied by a registered parent or other authorized adult for the entire workshop, to allow one-on-one help. Adults must be accompanied by at least one child. No photographic experience is necessary for children or their adults.

The workshop is a unique opportunity for training prior to entry in the Youth Category of the 2016 Chertok Florida Native Nature Photography Contest. Cost per adult is \$20 (Audubon members) and \$35 (non-members). Cost per child is \$10 with a registered adult. Contact Teresa at mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or (407) 644-0796 to register. For additional workshop information, contact Jack at jrogers62@cfl.rr.com or (407) 341-7709.

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wings and Wildflowers Festival

October 2-4, 2015
Contact Kathy at riglingk@aol.com

Beginners' Bird Watching Class: Orlando Wetlands Park and Lake Jesup

October 3, 10, & 17, 2015
Contact Bob at (407) 459-5617

Mead Botanical Garden Bird Walks

October 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, 2015
Contact Larry at (407) 647-5834

Photographer's Green PLACE Nature Walk: Savage/Christmas Creek Preserve

October 10, 2015
Contact orangetogreen@ocfl.net

October Program: Beneficial Bats by Shari Blissett-Clark

October 15, 2015
Contact Brook at (407) 921-8008

Limited Edition Field Trip to Three Lakes

October 18, 2015.
Contact Bob at (407) 459-5617

Audubon Assembly, Maitland

October 23-24, 2015.
Contact Deborah at (407) 637-2525

Backyard Biodiversity Day, Mead Botanical Garden

October 24, 2015
Contact Mary at rssmhk@gmail.com

Oakland Heritage Festival

October 24, 2015.
Contact Kathy at riglingk@aol.com.

Butterfly Identification Workshop

October 25, 2015
To register, contact Teresa at (407) 644-0796.
For class info, contact Randy at rssmhk@gmail.com

Youth Field Trip: Central Winds Park

November 7, 2015
Contact Brook at (407) 921-8008

Lake Eola Fiesta in the Park Arts and Crafts Festival

November 7-8, 2015
Contact Teresa at (407) 644-0796

Youth Photo Workshop at Orlando Wetlands Park

November 14, 2015
To register, contact Teresa at (407) 644-0796
For class info, contact Jack at (407) 341-7709

Return to the Roost at Orlando Wetlands Park

November 14, 2015
To register, contact Teresa at (407) 644-0796
For info, contact Danielle at (407) 658-4869

November Program: Bird ID Challenges by David Simpson

November 19, 2015
Contact Brook at (407) 921-8008