

Orange Audubon Society

The Voice of Conservation in Central Florida



Vol. 54 Issue 6 • February 2019



Left, Green Sea Turtle in Sargassum. Top right, Dr. Mansfield's students with Green Sea Turtles in the Indian River Lagoon. Bottom right, Students collecting data on Green Sea Turtles in the Gulf of Mexico. Photos courtesy Kate Mansfield; Permits: NMFS #19508 and MTP-231.



This Month's Program: February 21, 2019

Tracking Sea Turtles by Dr. Kate Mansfield

After sea turtle hatchlings emerge from their nests on the beach, they vanish into the sea. Until recently, this journey was shrouded in mystery and called "the lost years." Now, through the research of Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) February speaker, University of Central Florida biology professor Dr. Kate Mansfield, more is known.

Dr. Mansfield directs the UCF Marine Turtle Research Group, founded in the 1970s by past OAS board member Dr. Llewellyn Ehrhart. Focusing on sea turtle biology, ecology, behavior, and conservation across all sea turtle life stages—from eggs to adults—this research group provides educational and research opportunities to students. Its research also assists local, state, and international science and management entities.

Dr. Mansfield and students carry out oceanic "lost years" tracking work in the Gulf of Mexico, North and South Atlantic, and Indian Oceans. They also carry out research on long-term sea turtle nesting within the Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge and juvenile sea turtle movements in the Indian River Lagoon.

Join us February 21st at 7 p.m. for a fascinating program. See box below for location.

Rick Baird, Programs Chairperson

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/

Monthly Field Trip: February 23, 2019 Rock Springs Run State Reserve, Sorrento

As a continuation of Orange Audubon Society's efforts to profile the Wekiva River Basin state lands, we will explore Rock Springs Run State Reserve on Saturday, February 23rd.

We will walk 2-3 miles in the pine flatwoods and scrub, looking for Florida Scrub-Jay, Eastern Towhee, Sandhill Crane, songbirds, and others.

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Publix parking lot on S.R. 46 west of I-4, 5240 west S.R. 46, Sanford 32771. It is just over 6 miles to the reserve entry. Bring drinks, snacks, lunch and sunscreen. Facilities limited. The entry fee is \$3 per vehicle. If you have any questions, contact me at lmartin5@msn.com or (407) 647-5834. Hope to see you!

Larry Martin, Field Trips Chair

Wekiwa Springs State Park Bird Survey

Monthly field surveys at Wekiwa Springs State Park continue, with the date Saturday February 2nd, starting at 7:30 a.m. New participants are welcome. Contact Kathy at riglingk@ aol.com or (407) 488-9559.



North Shore Birding Festival a Success!

Approximately 250 participated in Orange Audubon Society's annual festival. They came from 18 states, 40+ Florida cities, Alberta and Ontario, Canada, and the U.K.. More on p.6-7.







February Updates

This year the Florida Senate and House Session will convene on March 5, 2019 and extend until May 3, 2019. Florida Forever funding for conservation land acquisition, plus warding off the incursion of roads into rural and designated conservation areas, continue to be big Audubon efforts. Sign up at this link for the Audubon Florida

Advocate for calls to action and follow the Audubon Florida's Facebook page.

Orange County has a new mayor and many new Commissioners who are just learning the concerns of the conservation community. Please join Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) Conservation Committee. Email me at info@ orangeaudubonfl.org if you have time to help.

OAS has been intimating to its members for the past year that we are closer to a possible nature center site in the Lake Apopka North Shore area. This is my sixth year serving as OAS president, and I can tell you that this is the hardest project we have ever worked on. We hope to have news of progress in the coming months and will have many people to thank if we are successful.

Meanwhile, the Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive continues to grow in popularity. We will be celebrating its 4th anniversary on Saturday, May 4th (the St. Johns River Water Management District opened it on May 1, 2015). Approximately 100,000 visitors pass through the gate to the Drive at 2805 Lust Road, Apopka, according to District automatic gate counters. A 2018 study by University of Florida researchers on ecotourist visitation to the Lake Apopka North Shore already needs to be updated, since its data shows that the other entrances to the North Shore, the Clay Island and North Shore/McDonald Canal entrances, are little used.

OAS' 2019 North Shore Birding Festival (p. 6-7) and two particularly rare birds can take the credit for introducing birders to these other areas, which are open all week to hikers and bicyclists. The superstar birds are the Claycolored Sparrow, easily seen right near the McDonald Canal boat ramp, and the Smooth-billed Ani, seen by most festival participants and with more difficulty by those walking or cycling in. Unlike the Groove-billed Anis that

were present for several years, which are Western birds, the Smooth-billed Ani is a tropical bird normally present only in extreme South Florida.

OAS continues the conservation effort of making our backyards into birding habitats. Our March program will be on Native Planting for Wildlife. February is not too early to install nest boxes for Great Crested Flycatchers that will be migrating back from the tropics at the end of the month. See past OAS president Richard Poole's article on nest boxes at this link.



Smooth-billed Ani. Photo: Mark Meifert

Deborah Green, OAS President

Sunrise Photo Shoot, February 23, 2019

Renowned professional photographer, author and instructor of nature photography Milton Heiberg will teach a sunrise photo workshop on Saturday, February 23rd from 6:00–10:00 a.m.. Participants will photograph the sunrise with water reflections at one of the most scenic locations in Central Florida—Orlando Wetlands Park. The park's many gray sun-bleached tree branches make interesting, photogenic perches for avian subjects. The rest of the morning will be spent photographing flying and perching birds and other wildlife. Participants should have a working knowledge of digital SLR photography. Bring a tripod and a 300 mm or longer lens (tele-extenders help). Cost is \$60 (Audubon members); \$75 (non-members), and class is limited to 12 adult participants. To register contact Teresa at (407) 644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl.rr.com.



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 P.O. Box 941142 Maitland, FL 32794-1142 www.orangeaudubonfl.org

President and *OASis* Editor: Deborah Green info@orangeaudubonfl.org (407) 637-2525

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

To add your email address to our distribution list or report a change in email address, contact newsletter@orangeaudubonfl.org.

For other membership information, contact: Mike Daley miked129e@gmail.com (407) 417-7818

JOIN OAS' MEETUP GROUP LIKE OAS ON FACEBOOK

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL
REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL
INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED
FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER
SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE,
1-800-435-7352, WITHIN THE STATE.
FROM OUTSIDE OF FLORIDA CALL 1-850410-3800. VISIT www.800helpfla.com
FOR HELP. REGISTRATION DOES NOT
IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR
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Birds of Prey Identification February 3, 2019

Winter is the time to see raptors on the Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive, and on Sunday, February 3rd popular instructor Bob Sanders will hold the third of his Birds of Prey Identification Classes.

Before moving to Central Florida, Bob co-founded the Chimney Rock Hawk Watch in Martinsville, New Jersey. Time is 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Cost for each day is \$5 (Audubon members) or \$10 (nonmembers). No early registration is required. Meet at the entrance of the Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive at 2850 Lust Road, Apopka. Bob can be reached at (407) 459-5617. See you there!

In case you missed it ...

Waterfowl

The North Shore Birding Festival kicked off with a presentation by Dr. Paul Gray called "Ways & Wanderings of Florida's Waterfowl," in which he illustrated the relationship between people and waterfowl, primarily ducks, throughout human history.

Waterfowl appear in the earliest of human paintings in the Lascaux Cave, which date to 17,000 years ago. Egyptian art contains marvelous images of waterfowl, and Greek mythology includes the story of Zeus and Leda the swan. Dr. Gray also showed an image of a Native American decoy duck made of feathers and twine from a society dating back to 400 BCF.

Human domestication of waterfowl began as far back as 4500 years ago when the Egyptians tamed the Greylag Goose. This goose species is the predecessor of many of our modern species of domesticated geese. The Swan Goose was domesticated in China, and domesticated duck species include the Muscovy and the Mallard.

Waterfowl famously served as guards when the Gauls attacked Rome circa 400 BCE, taking all but Capitoline Hill. The sacred Geese of Juno Temple began honking and alerted the Romans to the Gaul invaders, saving the day.

The hunting of waterfowl is our most infamous and persistent relationship. In 1241 CE, Holy Roman Emperor Frederick II wrote *The Art of Falconry*, a guide to hunting waterfowl and other birds with falcons. With remarkable eyesight and speed, falcons are excellent hunters, almost as good as the human species.



Ring-necked Ducks on the Lake Apopka North Shore. *Photo: Susan Kirby.* Pintails at Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. *Photo: Mary Keim.*

The invention of gunpowder increased the effectiveness of hunting waterfowl. Dr. Gray showed several of the flintlock rifles from his own collection. This gun was so common in our culture that it originated many common phrases still in use today - "lock, stock & barrel," "half-cocked," and "flash in the pan."

Waterfowl hunters were so successful at their craft that one North American duck, the Labrador Duck, went extinct.



The first Duck Stamp, sold in 1934-35, was a brush and ink drawing of Mallards by "Ding" Darling.

Editorial cartoonist and wildlife conservationist Jay N. "Ding" Darling brought the plight of waterfowl to public attention. In response to his efforts and those of many others, the U.S. established the Migratory Bird Treaty Act in 1918, which also protected waterfowl threatened by the commercial trade in birds and bird feathers (Since the current administration has eased protections provided by this Act, please support National Audubon Society's fight to have it reauthorized.)

In addition, "Ding" Darling created the

Federal Duck Stamp program, and designed the first Duck Stamp, income from which funds the National Wildlife Refuge System. Recent conservation efforts include outlawing lead shot.

Modern artists have been inspired by the beauty of waterfowl. Dr. Gray showed images of waterfowl in several art media, including the carved duck decoys of Elmer Crowell and Pat Godin, the paintings by Louis Agassiz Fuertes and Robert Bateman, and the municipal sculptures of flying waterfowl commissioned by the City of Omaha, Nebraska.

Dr. Gray concluded his remarks with a short discussion about the biology of waterfowl. The waterfowl family, Anatidae, has 170 species, 42 of which can occur in Florida, and 30 of which occur here regularly. Several species breed in Florida: Black-bellied and Fulvous Whistling-Ducks, Mottled Ducks, Wood Ducks, Mallards, and Hooded Mergansers.

Characteristics of ducks are flattened bills, webbed feet, wide bodies, down feathers, precocial downy young, and a simultaneous wing molt. The latter characteristic renders ducks unable to fly for an entire month. Descriptions of duck courting behavior, like the Ruddy Duck's blowing bubbles, were particularly enjoyable.

Terry Piper, OAS Board Member

More About Waterfowl

Orange Audubon Society's waterfowl kiosk, featuring beautiful photos by local photographers, is located in the boat ramp area of Magnolia Park, 2929 S. Binion Road, Apopka, FL 32703. The links below pull up information also accessible by QR code from that kiosk. It has been a great winter for ducks on the Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive due to high water levels and abundant aquatic vegetation. Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shovelers, Ring-necked Ducks, Ruddy Ducks, Northern Pintail, American Wigeon, and others only spend the winter in Central Florida.

Most of our winter ducks breed in the Prairie Pothole Region. From Alberta and British Columbia, Canada, southeast to the Tall Grass Prairie of Iowa, this region has ponds and wetlands scoured out by glaciers in the last ice age. Rich in plant and aquatic invertebrate life. it and supports populations of breeding waterfowl unmatched anywhere in the world.

Deborah Green





All Tucked In - Sandhill Cranes. 2018 Chertok Photo Contest. Advanced Category, First Place Winner. *Photo: Peter Brannon*

Splendid Sandhill Crane

Although a year-round Florida resident, the elegant Sandhill Crane rarely visits my Winter Park neighborhood. What a surprise to see two adults foraging on the shores of Lake Knowles in January!

Neighbors stared. A bicyclist stopped to photograph with her phone. Even I, who saw thousands of Sandhill Cranes in Nebraska, lingered to admire their bright red crowns, white cheeks, and charming bustle of plumage over their rumps. They were not shy and ventured into the street about 15 feet from me to search for food.

Resident Florida Sandhill Cranes? Migratory subspecies? About four feet tall, they appeared heavier than a Great Blue Heron. I assumed the smaller one was female and the pair were a couple. After strolling about, they flew off with a loud, resonant bugle-like rattle, calling in unison as mated pairs do.

Male and female Sandhill Cranes are identical in color and facial markings. In summer their gray plumage turns rusty or ochre colored. The first-year juvenile and summer adults are brownish as well.

Because of their enormous wingspan—six feet or more—Cranes are extremely skilled at soaring and can stay aloft for many hours with only an occasional flapping of their wings. Male Sandhill Cranes are also known for their exuberant displays to attract mates. They stretch their wings, pump their heads, bow, and leap into the air in a graceful, energetic dance.

Because females usually lay only two eggs, only one chick typically survives to fledgling, therefore the species is highly vulnerable to predators. Foxes, raccoons, coyotes, owls, and other raptors hunt eggs, nestlings and injured adults. In Cuba and Florida the

Great Backyard Bird Count, February 15-18, 2019

The next Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) is February 15-18, 2019. The GBBC was the first online citizenscience project to collect data on wild birds and to display the results in near real-time. In 2018, GBBC participants in more than 100 countries counted more than 6,400 species of birds on more than 180,000 checklists during the four-day event to create an annual snapshot of the distribution and abundance of birds.



House Finch, Orlando backyard, January 2015. *Photo: Mary Keim*

For at least 15 minutes on one or more days of the count (February 15-18), simply tally the numbers and kinds of birds you see. You can count from any location, for as long as you wish. If you're new to the count, or have not participated since before the 2013 merger with eBird, you must create a free online account to enter your checklists. If you already have an account, use the same login name and password. For a slide show about how to participate, see this link. Join the fun and contribute to this great citizen science project! Mary Keim, OAS Member and GBBC Participant

American crocodile and alligator take a large number of Sandhill Cranes. Destruction of wetland habitat in Florida also plays havoc with their survival.

Sandhill Cranes are omnivorous and feed on land or in shallow marshes, gleaning from the surface and probing with their bills. The birds also eat corn, wheat, cottonseed and sorghum. During migration you can see hundreds of thousands of Sandhill Cranes feasting on waste corn in Nebraska farmers' fields. At night the Cranes roost on the shallow sandbars of the Platte River

Limited Edition Field Trip to Lake Harney Wilderness Area, Geneva February 24, 2019



Lake Harney Wilderness Area.

Photo courtesy Seminole County

The Lake Harney Wilderness Area is an approximately 300-acre Seminole County property located along the St. Johns River at the northwest shore of Lake Harney. It contains Native American shell middens, oak hammocks and mixed hardwood swamps.

This site also contains extensive floodplain marshes along Lake Harney; these serve as important feeding grounds for wading birds and as a natural filter that improves water quality. White Pelicans, Bald Eagles, Limpkins, shorebirds, Bonaparte's Gulls, Black Skimmers, and various songbirds may be seen there.

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.

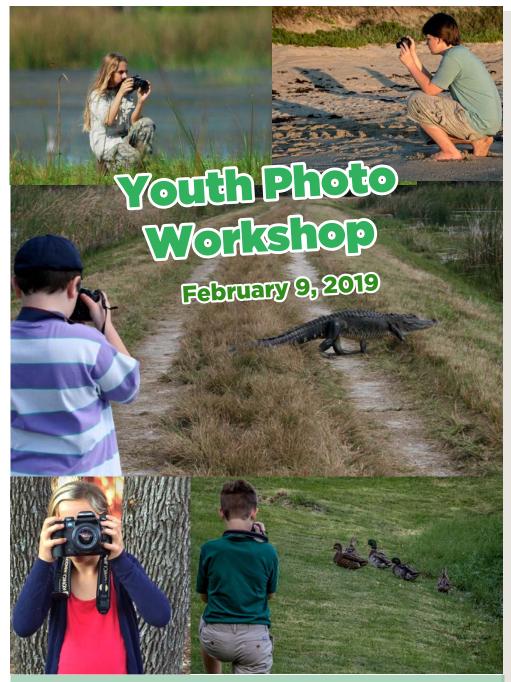
near the state's Sandhills, hence their name.

In March 2017 when I visited the Platte River, officials counted more than 400,000 Sandhill Cranes over a period of several days. It's a spectacle I will never forget! You also can see Sandhill Cranes in large flocks at Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, New Mexico, Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge, Texas, and Paynes Prairie Preserve in Micanopy, Florida.

Check it out!!

Linda Carpenter





Join the fun! Learn how to take even better nature photos! Enter the Youth Category of the Chertok Photo Contest.

Young photographers, clockwise from top left: Mason Theurer stalking a wetland bird, *Photo: Jenny Welch*; Shaw Frederick photographing a sea turtle, *Photo: Vince Lamb*; Reese Rubio photographing an alligator crossing the road at Orlando Wetlands Park, *Photo: Melissa J. Peacock*; J.J. Clark photographing Mallards, *Photo: Susan Kirby*; Soleil Rogers focusing on you, *Photo: Jack Rogers*.

Orange Audubon Society's Youth & Family Photography Workshop is on Saturday, February 9, 2019 from 1:00–4:00 p.m., led by nature photographer Susan Kirby and naturalist Mary Keim at Mead Botanical Garden, 1300 S. Denning Dr, Winter Park, FL 32789. Any type of digital equipment is appropriate. Registration is required. Children ages 10–17, must be accompanied by at least one registered adult for the entire workshop. Adults must be accompanied by at least one registered child. Cost per adult is \$5 (Audubon members) and \$15 (nonmembers). Youth are free with a registered adult. To register contact Teresa at (407) 644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl.rr.com. For additional workshop information, please contact Susan at (443) 994-9909.

Deadline for the Chertok Nature Photo Contest is April 18th!

This year is Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) 31st Annual Kit and Sidney Chertok Florida Native Nature Photography Contest and the theme is Florida Native Nature. Competing in this contest will sharpen your photo skills, increase knowledge of Florida's amazing wildlife and wild places and teach valuable ethical field practices.

Eligible photos may not include humans, human artifacts or introduced plant or animal species—subject matter must be native to Florida—and entries must be taken in compliance with the NANPA code of conduct.

The deadline is April 18, 2019 (postmarked or electronically submitted by date). Disqualified entries may optionally be replaced for no additional entry fee by following instructions provided upon notification.

In addition to the prize package of \$1,300 from OAS and co-sponsors Colonial Photo & Hobby and Tarflower Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society, plant aficionados from Tarflower will be available as mentors to help with plant identification.

The contest is open to all photographers (members of OAS' board and Chertok contest committee excluded) and there are three skill level competition categories: Youth—for photographers age 17 years or younger by April 18, 2019; Novice—for new and less experienced photo hobbyists; and Advanced Amateur/ Professional—for experienced photographers who have practiced and honed their skills over time.

For complete details and rules, see the 2019 entry forms on OAS' website at this <u>link for adult entries</u> and this link for youth entries.

Get outside with your camera and start shooting and preserving Florida's amazing native nature!

Contact me at mwilliams@cfl.rr.com or (407) 644-0796 if you have questions.

Teresa Williams, OAS' Chertok Photography Contest Chair



2019 North Shore Birding Festival

So many people to thank—Maria Zondervan and others from the St. Johns River Water Management District, trip leaders from Wildside Nature Tours: Glenn Crawford and Greg Miller (of *The Big Year* fame); state and local leaders: Gian Basili, Wayne Bennett, Greg Bretz, Michael Brothers, Lynn Marie Folts, Paul Gray, Reinhard Geisler, Melissa Gonzalez, Mark Hainen, Milton Heiberg, Earl Horn, Paul Lammardo, Julie Lee, Lorri Lilia, Lorne Malo, Larry Martin, Chris Newton, Gallus Quigley, Kathy Rigling, Ralph Risch, Tom Rodriguez, Frank Salmon, Bob Sanders, Steve Shaluta. Scott Simmons, Rebecca Smith, Susan Snyder, Joyce & Bill Stefancic, Renee Thomas, John Thomton, and, for behind-the-scenes birding intel, Paul Hueber.

Many thanks also to the volunteers and committee: Linda Gaunt, Killian Hiltz, Susan & Charles Kirby, Susan Ledlow, David Marano, Tricia McDeed, Terry Piper, Loretta Satterthwaite, Bob and Flo Sena, Bob Stamps, Teresa Williams, Dena Wild, and for Facebook publicity, Phoebe Gonsalves.

Thanks also to sponsors acknowledged on pg. 7 for their financial support; and individual donors to OAS' inaugural scholarship fund that enabled five college students to attend from the University of Florida (3) and the University of Central Florida (2). It has been such a collective effort, for love of the Lake Apopka North Shore and the birds.









RIght, top to bottom: Painted Buntings, *Photo: Joyce Stefancic;* Clay-colored Sparrow, *Photo: Mark Heinen.* Glenn Crawford presentation on Central American Birding, and Greg Miller with UF and UCF students, *Photos: Deborah Green;* Raptor trip, watching eagles, *Photo: Joyce Stefancic.* Middle, top to bottom, Clay Island overlook at sunrise, *Photo: Susan Kirby;* Lake Apopka Sunrise Trip, *Photo: Michelle Wilson;* Birding by Ear, *and* Friday All Day Trip, *Photos: Deborah Green;* Gulls offshore with Pomerine Jaeger, *Photo: Jaime Miller;* Left, Michael Brothers telling about gull habits, *Photo: Greg Miller.*







Thanks to the 2019 North Shore Birding Festival Sponsors



















South Carolina Magical Birding Trip: Save the Date

We had so much fun last year that we're going back. On May 17–19, 2019, Orange Audubon Society's fundraising trip will be to the Columbia and Charleston, South Carolina, areas. The field trip fee, which includes local expert guides and a picnic supper Friday, is \$60 members/\$75 non-members. Contact Deborah at (407) 637-2525 or info@orangeaudubonfl.org if you are interested or for more information.







Top left, Susan Snyder orienting workshop participants on nature journaling. Top right, participants at work. Bottom right, Gabbie Buendia showing her journal entry; Bottom left, Participants at work. *Photos: Melissa Gonzalez*

Nature Journaling

Festival participants of all ages found themselves in for a real treat during Susan Snyder's Nature Journaling workshop during the beautifully sunny and cool Saturday of the North Shore Birding Festival. Susan's captivating illustrations were made even richer by the stories and experiences that she shared with participants, making for a fun and interactive learning opportunity. Her honest and straightforward tips motivated participants of all artistic abilities and everyone was able to create something they could be proud of.

Susan's first tip? Throw away any mental images you have of the object you are trying to capture. Mental images of perfectly shaped large oaks make it difficult to draw what is actually in front of you. Instead, Susan suggests starting from the ground and following the shape of a plant or animal with your eyes. As your eyes trace the outline of your subject, use your pen to trace the same path on paper. If you can do it without taking your pen off the paper, you will get the best results. This practice is also extremely calming and centering, forcing you to concentrate on and really appreciate the environment that you are in.

After bringing our outlines to life with colored pencils and watercolor paint, Susan offered up some page layouts and writing prompts in order to support the page with our current observations and feelings. These prompts required further reflection and connection to the environment, exercising all of our senses. Whether we drew a single species or illustrated the landscape, the writing prompts asked us to tie everything together by taking note of what we noticed, what we wondered, and adjectives and nouns that came to mind. I paired my drawing of three floating water plants with the words, "lucky," "mini," "floating," "yellow," and "waves."

Overall, nature journaling is a wonderful tool for documenting memories, appreciating the environment, and making more mindful observations of one's surroundings. As someone who doesn't consider herself an artist, I entered the space with mixed feelings. By the end, however, I felt confident and excited to start this new hobby, thanks to Susan's guidance. I can't wait to continue cataloguing all of the wonderful species I encounter daily through these practices.

Gabbie Buendia, OAS board member



Your Biggest Year Ever

Going to Orlando Wetlands Park with Lori Mathis, Bob Sanders and Larry Martin on January 5th helped jump-start the 2019 bird lists for me and twentytwo other participants.

Together we turned up 62 species and we had a lot of fun. The rarest bird was a Gull-billed Tern. Thanks Lori, Bob and Larry for your help with this fund-raiser.

Kathy Rigling, trip organizer



Your Biggest Year Ever field trip at Orlando Wetlands Park. *Photo: Kathy Rigling*

Beginners' Bird Watching Class March 2, 9 & 16, 2019

Orange Audubon Society offers a Beginners' Bird Watching Class taught by Bob Sanders this spring. An "outdoor" classroom session and mini-field trip will be on March 2nd at Orlando Wetlands Park (OWP) and two field sessions will be on March 9th and 16th at OWP and Lake Jesup, respectively.

All sessions are 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. If you miss a spring session, you may make-up the class in fall 2019. 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 wishing to join will be given instructions upon registration. Contact Teresa at (407) 644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl. rr.com. For questions about the class, contact Bob at (407) 459-5617.

Ethos 5% Day March 2, 2019

On Saturday, March 2nd, Ethos Vegan Kitchen will be donating 5% of its sales throughout the



day to Orange Audubon Society (OAS). Simply dine in or take out and 5% of your check will go to our chapter. This is the seventh year that Ethos has selected OAS to benefit from their generous 5% Day.

Ethos Vegan Kitchen is located at 601-B South New York Avenue, Winter Park, FL 32789, phone (407) 228-3899.

Wind Beneath Our Wings, February 24, 2019

Audubon Center for Birds of Prey's annual fund-raiser celebrates "40 Years of Taking Flight" and will be at Leu Gardens. Register by February 15th at this link. If any questions, contact 305-371-6399 #127 or aniescler@audubon.org.

FEBRUARY/MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February Wekiwa Bird Survey

February 2, 2019

Contact Kathy at (407) 488-9559

Birds of Prev Identification Field Trip. Lake Apopka

February 3, 2019

Contact Bob at (407) 459-5617

Youth & Family Photo Workshop, Mead Botanical Garden

February 9, 2019

Contact Teresa at (407) 644-0796

Great Backyard Bird Count

February 15-18, 2019

www.birdsource.org/gbbc

February Program: Tracking the Sea Turtle - Kate Mansfield

February 21, 2019

Contact Rick at (407) 277-3357

Sunrise Photo Shoot, Orlando Wetlands Park

Feb 23, 2019

Contact Teresa at (407) 644-0796

February Field Trip: Rock Springs Run State Reserve, Sorrento

February 23, 2019

Contact Larry at (407) 647-5834

Limited Edition Field Trip to Lake Harney Wilderness Area, Geneva

February 24, 2019

Contact Bob at (407) 459-5617

Wind Beneath Our Wings Event, Leu Gardens

February 24, 2019

Contact Alison at 305-371-6399 #127

Ethos Vegan Kitchen, Winter Park, 5% Profit Day to benefit Orange Audubon Society

March 2, 2019

Contact Deborah at (407) 637-2525

Beginners' Bird Watching Class

March 2, 9 & 16, 2019

Contact Teresa at (407) 644-0796

March Program: Native Planting for Wildlife - Catherine Bowman

March 21, 2019

Contact Rick at (407) 277-3357

March Field Trip: Wekiwa Springs State Park

March 23, 2019

Contact Larry at (407) 647-5834

Limited Edition Field Trip to Orlando Wetlands Park

March 30, 2019

Contact Bob at (407) 459-5617