

Contacts



OFFICERS

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2nd Vice Pres	Alan Shapiro	alangrandiflora@gmail.com
Secretary	Linda Gaunt	(941) 704-1189
Treasurer	Sue Weidner	(407) 698-6226

EDUCATIONAL COORDINATOR

Kathy Rigling (407) 488-9559 education@orangeaudubonfl.org

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Conservation	Rick Baird	(321) 239-2436
Education	Susan Thome-Barrett	2904susan@gmail.com
Field Trips /Surveys	Alan Shapiro	alangrandiflora@gmail.com
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Hospitality	Marian Lichtler	(775) 293-0969
Membership	Mary Van Egmond	mary.vanegmond@icloud.com
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OASis Editor	Deborah Green	(407) 637-2525
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Outreach	Jack Horton	jhorton@mac.com
Photo Contest	Teresa Williams	(407) 718-1977
Programs	Alan Shapiro	alangrandiflora@gmail.com
Speakers' Bureau	Linda Carpenter	lcarpenter003@cfl.rr.com
Website	webmaster@orangeaudubonfl.org	

MEETINGS / VOLUNTEERING

Orange Audubon Society (OAS) regular board meetings are held September through May at 6:00PM immediately before each program. A summer board planning meeting is usually held in July. Current OAS members may attend and are encouraged to participate on OAS committees. Contact the committee chairs or email volunteer@orangeaudubonfl.org. OAS has many volunteer needs and welcomes your help.



Green Heron in Flight
– Matthew Chin
Honorable Mention, Youth Category
2025 Chertok Nature Photography Contest

ORANGE AUDUBON SOCIETY

MISSION

Our mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds and their habitats, for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity.

MONTHLY GUEST SPEAKER PROGRAMS

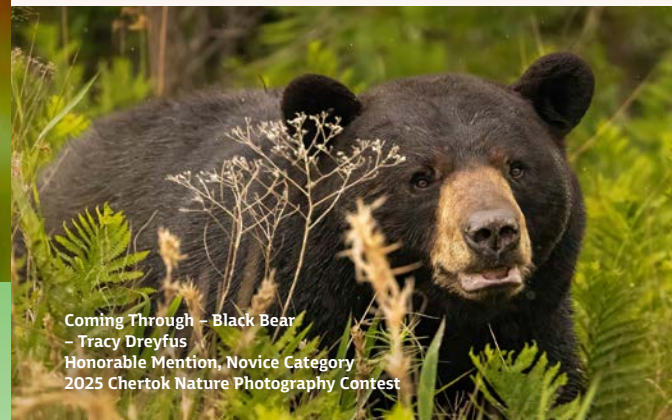
Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) Guest Speaker Programs, listed in the adjacent column, are free and open to the public. They take place on the third Thursday each month, September through June at 7:00 PM. There are no planned programs in July or August.

BIRD CHATS WITH OAS

Bird Chats with OAS, online (Zoom) conversations about bird sightings with guest presentations, are held September through June on the first, second and fourth Thursdays at 7:00 PM. Register on OAS' website to receive weekly notice of upcoming chats with Zoom login links, and check the OASis for a Bird Chats schedule. Programs are later posted on OAS' YouTube channel (Search for Orange Audubon Society on YouTube).

Programs

Orange Audubon Society's (OAS) Guest Speaker Programs are free, open to the public and held on the third Thursdays at 7:00 PM at Harry P. Leu Gardens, Orlando (leugardens.org/Visit/Directions-Parking) in the Camellia Room. The December program will be remote and aired LIVE on OAS' YouTube channel. Search for Orange Audubon Society on YouTube. For details and updates, please consult the OASis or OAS' website or Facebook page (links on cover).



Coming Through – Black Bear
– Tracy Dreyfus
Honorable Mention, Novice Category
2025 Chertok Nature Photography Contest

SEP 18 Warblers! The Journey of a Lifetime — Alex DeBear

OCT 16 Bats: Myth & Reality — Shari Blissett Clark

NOV 20 The Owls of Safety Harbor - A Local Tragedy, A National Issue— Mark Schocken

DEC 18 Photo Tips Online Program — TBA

JAN 15 Tracing Florida Journeys — Leslie Kemp Poole

FEB 19 Breaking New Ground with Florida Scrub-Jays
— Karl Miller

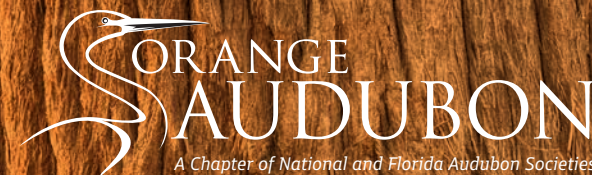
MAR 19 Butterflies and Native Plants : Making the Connection
— Linda Cooper

APR 16 Rehabilitating Native Animals
— Debbie Helsel, Back to Nature

MAY 21 Habitats of Central Florida and the Mead
Sandhill Restoration Project — Catherine Bowman

JUN 18 38th Annual Chertok Nature Photography Contest
Awards Program and Online Auction — Teresa Williams

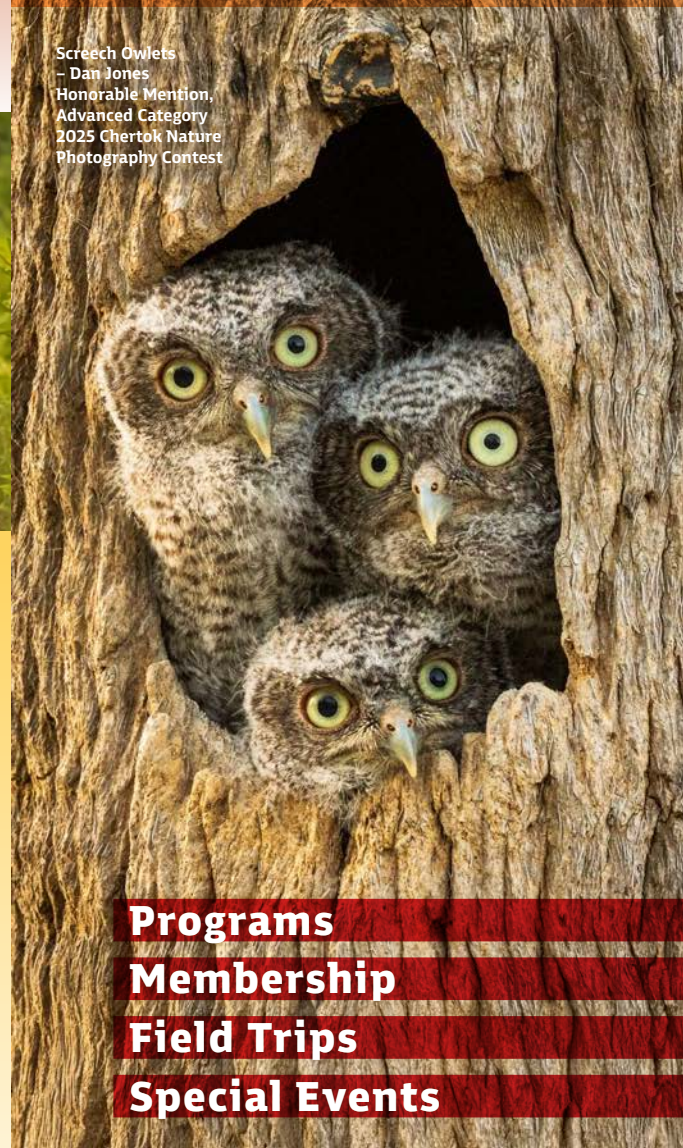
**Please join us for these entertaining
and informative programs!**



A Chapter of National and Florida Audubon Societies

2025-2026

Screech Owlets
– Dan Jones
Honorable Mention,
Advanced Category
2025 Chertok Nature
Photography Contest



Programs

Membership

Field Trips

Special Events

P.O. Box 941142, Maitland, FL 32794-1142

orangeaudubonfl.org

facebook.com/orangeaudubon/

youtube.com/@orangeaudubonsociety7734



Lurky LeConte's – LeConte's Sparrow
– Ethan Landreville
Honorable Mention, Youth Category
2025 Chertok Nature Photography Contest



Caught! Great Blue Heron
with American Alligator
– Lee Ann Posavad
3rd Place, Advanced Category
2025 Chertok Nature Photography

MEMBERSHIP

Orange Audubon Society (OAS), a Florida nonprofit chapter of the National and Florida Audubon Societies, has about 2,000 member households. Membership dues paid through OAS directly support local programs and conservation efforts.

Members receive three publications: NAS' quarterly Audubon magazine, Audubon Florida's triannual Audubon Florida Naturalist, and OAS' illustrated newsletter, OASis, available online from September to June.

Join or renew your membership via the Join/Renew tab on our website or by using the form below to designate how much, if any, of your payment should stay with OAS to support conservation and education in Central Florida. NAS will send renewal notices and OAS will send reminders.

Contact membership@orangeaudubonfl.org for your renewal date and to update your email address for timely notice of OAS' activities.



It's easy to join online. Just scan this QR code with your phone or mail this form to Join or Renew your Audubon membership online on the Orange Audubon website.

Dues above \$20, the minimum required by NAS, will stay with OAS, your local chapter, to benefit its many conservation and nature education initiatives in Central Florida, unless you specify a different allocation here.

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Enclosed is my check for (check one):

☐ \$15 Students

☐ \$20 Egret (Baseline dues to National Audubon Society)

☐ \$35 Wren

☐ \$50 Hawk

☐ \$100 Jay

Distribution code:
LAWD

Name*	<input type="checkbox"/> or More \$	Owl
Email*	Additional NAS \$	OAS \$
Phone*		
Address*		
City/State/ZIP + 4*		

*REQUIRED INFORMATION. OAS does not share your information with other mailing lists. Please JOIN or RENEW online at OrangeAudubonfl.org or pay by check.

Payable to Orange Audubon Society, and mailed with this form to:
Orange Audubon Society
P.O. Box 941142, Maitland, FL 32794-1142

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 1-850-410-3800. VISIT WWW.FDACS.GOV FOR HELP. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. REGISTRATION NO. CH2330

FIELD TRIPS 2025-2026

REGULAR FIELD TRIPS

Regular field trips showcase Florida's wildlife in natural conditions and most involve leisurely walks. FREE.

Register online at orangeaudubonfl.org/activities/field-trips	
Sep 20	Brownie Wise Park, Osceola County
Oct 18	Mead Botanical Garden, Winter Park
Nov 15	Pear Park Wildlife Conservation Area, Leesburg
Dec	Local Christmas Bird Counts (see OASis for dates)
Jan 17	Lake Lucie, Green Eyes, Fields of Fame, Apopka
Feb 22	Orlando Wetlands, Orlando
Mar 21	Shingle Creek, Osceola County
Apr 18	Mead Botanical Garden, Winter Park

LIMITED EDITION FIELD TRIPS

Limited Edition Field Trips are restricted to 12 people per trip. Costs are: half day – \$15 members, \$20 non-members; overnight – \$95 members, \$125 non-members. Email: Kathy Rigling to reserve— riglingkathy@gmail.com

Sat, Sep 13	Joe Overstreet Road and Landing, Osceola County
Sun, Oct 19	Pine Meadows Conservation Area, Lake County
Sat, Nov 1	Birding by Bike, Orlando Wetlands, Orange County
Sat, Jan 3	Your Biggest Year, Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive
Sat - Sun, Jan 31- Feb 1	Gainesville Birding Hotspots, Alachua County
Sat, Feb 28	Merritt Island Hotspots, Brevard County
Sat, Mar 7	Chinsegut Conservation Center, Hernando County
Sun, Apr 19	Lk. Apopka Wildlife Drive, Orange County
Mon - Tue, May 4-5	Fort De Soto Park, Pinellas County
Sat, May 16	Katie's Landing Kayaking, Lake County
Sat, Jun 6	June Challenge Kickoff, Orlando Wetlands

YOUNG BIRDERS FIELD TRIPS

For Youth Ages 8-17 (under 16 accompanied by adult). Cost: FREE
Coordinator: Kathy Rigling — riglingkathy@gmail.com
Dates: Sep 27 and Nov 22, 2025; Feb 15, Mar 1, Apr 11 and May 2, 2026

BILINGUAL TRIPS

Latino Conservation Week Walk
Location: Apopka Birding Park, Apopka
Fecha/Hora: Sep 13, 8:30–11:00 AM Cost: FREE

Buscando Pajaros Trailer Ride Throughout Wetlands
Trip Leader: Gilberto Sanchez-Perez
Location: Orlando Wetlands, Christmas
Fecha/Hora: TBA. Cost: FREE Detalles y registraci3n: (407) 637-2525

Bird-Friendly Yards Tour
Date/Time: Sunday, October 12, 9:00 AM–2:00 PM
Cost: \$15, youth under 17 free
Details: Deborah Green — info@orangeaudubonfl.org

Northwest Florida Panhandle Birding Trip
5-day birding trip to Franklin, Leon and Wakulla county hotspots for migratory and southern breeding songbirds and shorebirds and rarities

Dates: April TBA. Cost: \$300 members; \$350 non-members
Registration/lodging/other details: Teresa Williams — (407) 718-1977

ORANGE AUDUBON CLASSES

Registration for classes and workshops is online at orangeaudubonfl.org/activities/field-trips
Email info@orangeaudubonfl.org if you have any questions

DRAGONFLY IDENTIFICATION

Instructors: Randy Snyder and Mary Keim — rssmhk@gmail.com
Location: Orlando Wetlands, Christmas
Date/Time: Sat, Sep 13, 2025, 9:00–NOON
Class Limit: 15 participants
Cost: \$20 members; \$25 non-members

BEGINNERS' BIRD WATCHING

Instructors: Kathy Rigling — riglingkathy@gmail.com and Susan Thome-Barrett
Locations: Orlando Wetlands, Mead Botanical Garden, Oakland Nature Preserve and/or Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive
3-part Class Dates/Times: Fall — Oct 11, 18 and 25, 2025
Winter — Feb 7, 14 and 21, 2026; Times: 8:00–11:30 AM
Class Limit: 12 participants per 3-part class
Cost per 3-part Class: \$60 members; \$75 non-members; \$10 youth (12 & under) with registered adult

INTERMEDIATE BIRD IDENTIFICATION

Instructor: Bob Sanders — (407) 459-5617
Location: Orlando Wetlands, Christmas
2-part Class Dates/Time: Mar 21 and 28, 2026, 8:30 AM–12:30 PM
Class Limit: 12 participants
Cost: \$60 members; \$75 non-members

BIRDS OF PREY IDENTIFICATION

Instructor: Bob Sanders — (407) 459-5617
Location: Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive, Apopka
Cost for each class: \$15 members; \$25 non-members
Dates/Time: Sun, Jan 11 and Feb 8, 2026, 8:30 AM–1:00 PM

PHOTO WORKSHOPS

Green PLACE Nature & Photography Hike
Co-leaders: Orange County Green PLACE naturalist and Lee Ann Posavad and Alex DeBear, wildlife photographers
Explore an Orange County Green PLACE property and learn photo tips. Ideal for youth, families, and others.
Fall Date/Time: Sat, Sept 6, 2025, 9:00–11:30 AM Cost: FREE
Location: Ken Bosserman Econlockhatchee River Preserve, east Orlando
Spring Date/Time: Sun, Mar 29, 2025, 9:00–11:30 AM Cost: FREE
Location: Lake Lucie Conservation Area, Sorrento, west Orange County
Further Information: Green PLACE program — (407) 836-1522

Youth Photo Workshop
Co-leaders: The Chin Family: Wei-Shen, Lauren, Nicole and Matthew
Date/Time: Sun, March 1, 2026, 8:00 AM
Cost: \$5. Youth under 16 accompanied by registered adult
Location: Newton Park, Winter Garden
Further Information: info@orangeaudubonfl.org

SPECIAL EVENTS*

Nature Fest, Oakland Nature Preserve
Sep 20, 2025 — (407) 637-2525
Mead Botanical Garden Fall Bird Walks, Winter Park
Oct 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2025, 8:00 AM— (941) 704-1189
Backyard Biodiversity Day, Mead Botanical Garden
Oct 18, 2025 — (407) 637-2525
NORTH SHORE BIRDING FESTIVAL, Lake Apopka
northshorebirdingfestival.com/
Dec 11–15, 2025 — (407) 637-2525
Mead Botanical Garden Spring Bird Walks, Winter Park
Apr 4, 11, 18, and 25, 2026, 8:00 AM — (941) 704-1189
Spring Fever in the Garden, Winter Garden
April 2026 — (407) 637-2525
Chertok Nature Photography Contest
Deadline to submit all entries: Apr 16, 2026
Deadline to replace disqualified entries: May 21, 2026
Awards: Jun 18, 2026 — (407) 718-1977
Central Florida Earth Day, Lake Eola, Orlando
Apr 18, 2026 — (321) 239-2436
Apopka Art & Foliage Festival, Apopka
Apr 25–26, 2026 — (407) 637-2525
Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive 11th Anniversary
May 3, 2026— (407) 637-2525
Baby Owl Shower
Audubon Center for Birds of Prey, Maitland
May 9, 2026 — (407) 718-1977
OAS Online Auction
Jun 12–22, 2026 — (941) 704-1189
https://new.biddingowl.com/OrangeAudubonSociety
June Challenge Bird Walk and Top Birder Celebration
Jul 26, 2026 — riglingkathy@gmail.com
CITIZEN/COMMUNITY SCIENCE
Bird Surveys — riglingkathy@gmail.com
Oakland Nature Preserve (quarterly)
Rock Spring Run State Reserve (quarterly)
Apopka Birding Park (monthly)
Lake Apopka North Shore (monthly)
Wekiwa Springs State Park (monthly)
EagleWatch Training
Fall 2025 — www.audubon.org/florida/projects/eaglewatch
Christmas Bird Counts
Dec 14, 2025–Jan 5, 2026 — See OASis for details.
Great Backyard Bird Count
February 13–16, 2026 — gbbc.birdcount.org/
Jay Watch Training
May 2026 — www.audubon.org/florida/projects/jay-watch

Attendees must follow prevailing, event-specific, health, weather and other safety rules. OAS activities may change during the season. While OAS aims for accuracy, changes may occur unexpectedly. For updates, visit the OASis, OAS' website, or Facebook page (links on front cover).