Contacts

ORANGE AUDUBON

OFFICERS

President	Deborah Green	info@orangeaudubonfl.org
1st Vice Pres	Jack Horton	jhorton@mac.com
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

Apopka Birding Park	Deborah Green	(407) 637-2525
Conservation	Rick Baird	(321) 239-2436
Education	Susan Thome-Barrett	2904susan@gmail.com
Field Trips /Surveys	Alan Shapiro	alangrandiflora@gmail.com
Finance	Mary Van Egmond	mary.vanegmond@icloud.com
Hospitality	Marian Lichtler	(775) 293-0969
Membership	Mary Van Egmond	membership@orangeaudubonfl.org
OASis Editor	Deborah Green	(407) 637-2525
Online Auction	Linda Gaunt	(941) 704-1189
Outreach	Jack Horton	jhorton@mac.com
Photo Contest	Teresa Williams	(407) 718-1977
Programs	Alan Shapiro	alangrandiflora@gmail.com
Speakers' Bureau	Linda Carpenter	speakers@orangeaudubonfl.org
Website	webmaster@orangeaudubonfl.org	

MEETINGS / VOLUNTEERING

Orange Audubon Society board meetings are held September through May at 5:45PM immediately before each program. A summer board planning meeting is usually held in July. Current Orange Audubon members may attend and are encouraged to participate on our committees. Contact the committee chairs or email volunteer@orangeaudubonfl.org. Orange Audubon has many volunteer needs and welcomes your help.



The Gentle Submarine—Florida Manatee
Honorable Mention, Novice Category
2026 Chertok Nature Photo Contest
Photo: Paige Thanasoulis



Bill-to-Bill—Roseate Spoonbills
Honorable Mention, Novice Category
2026 Chertok Nature Photo Contest
Photo: Eric Guess

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.

BIRD CHATS WITH ORANGE AUDUBON

Bird Chats are online (Zoom) conversations, held September through June on the first, second and fourth Thursdays at 7:00 PM. Register on the Orange Audubon website's About Us page to receive the Zoom links weekly, and look for the Bird Chats schedule in the *OASis*. Recordings are later posted on Orange Audubon's YouTube channel.



Tricolor Snack—Tricolored Heron
Fourth Place, Youth Category
2026 Chertok Nature Photo Contest
Photo: Matthew Chin

Programs

Orange Audubon Society's Guest Speaker Programs are free, open to the public and held on the third Thursdays, September through June, 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 on Zoom. Search for Orange Audubon Society on YouTube afterwards to see our Bird Chats and some but not all of the monthly programs. For details and updates, see the *OASis* or Orange Audubon's website or Facebook page (links on cover).



Has Anyone Seen My Aphids? Florida Carpenter Ant and Aphids
Third Place - Advanced Category, 2026 Chertok Nature Photo Contest
Photo: Steven Long

GUEST SPEAKER PROGRAMS

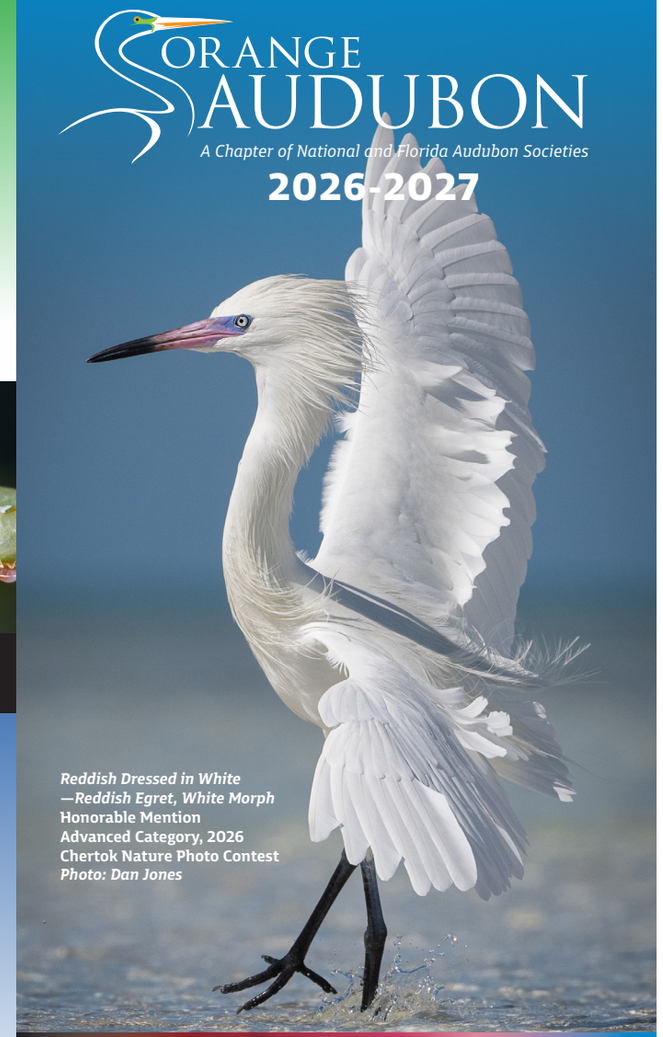
SEP	17	Rescue, Care and Rehabilitation of Reptiles — *Kim Titteringen*
OCT	15	Wild Turkeys — *Jay Exum*
NOV	19	Sparrows of Florida — *Alex DeBear*
Dec	17	Birds Up Close — *Lorna Gibson (on Zoom)*
Jan	21	Close Focus on Nature — *Steven Long*
Feb	18	Swallow-tailed and Snail Kites — *Ken Meyer*
Mar	18	Dark Skies over Groveland — *Andrew Landis*
Apr	15	Disney and Avian Conservation — *Jason Fischer*
May	20	Saving the Florida Wildlife Corridor — *Casey Wang*
Jun	17	39th Annual Chertok Nature Photography Contest Awards Program and Online Auction — *Teresa Williams*

Please join us for these entertaining and informative programs!

ORANGE AUDUBON

A Chapter of National and Florida Audubon Societies

2026-2027



Reddish Dressed in White —Reddish Egret, White Morph
Honorable Mention
Advanced Category, 2026
Chertok Nature Photo Contest
Photo: Dan Jones

Programs
Membership
Field Trips
Special Events

P.O. Box 274, Apopka, Fl 32704

orangeaudubonfl.org
facebook.com/orangeaudubon
instagram.com/orangeaudubon_fl
youtube.com/@orangeaudubonsociety7734

Membership

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

Members receive three publications: NAS' quarterly *Audubon* magazine, Audubon Florida's triannual *Audubon Florida Naturalist*, and Orange Audubon's 8-page newsletter, *OASis*, available as a pdf online from September through June.

Join or renew your membership via the Join/Renew tab on our website or use the form below to designate the amount of your payment, if any, that should be retained to support Orange Audubon's conservation and education in Central Florida. Orange Audubon will send courtesy reminders of your need to renew. Contact membership@orangeaudubonfl.org for your renewal date and to update your email address for timely notice of Orange Audubon's activities.

IT'S EASY TO JOIN ONLINE.

Just scan this QR code with your phone to Join or Renew your Audubon membership through the Orange Audubon website or mail this form. Any amount above the $20 minimum dues required for membership will stay with Orange Audubon, your local chapter, to benefit its many conservation and nature education initiatives in Central Florida, unless you specify a different allocation here.

Enclosed is my payment for (check one):

- ☐ **$15 Student** $20 Goes to National Audubon
- ☐ **$20 Egret** Minimum Dues — $20 Goes to National Audubon
- ☐ **$35 Wren** $20 Goes to National Audubon
- ☐ **$50 Hawk** $20 Goes to National Audubon
- ☐ **$100 Jay** $20 Goes to National Audubon
- ☐ **$500 Owl** $20 Goes to National Audubon
- $ Additional to **Orange Audubon**
- $ Additional to **National Audubon**

Distribution code: **LAWD**

Name*

Email*

Phone*

Address*

City/State/ZIP + 4*

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

Payable and mailed with this form to:
ORANGE AUDUBON SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 274, APOPKA, FL 32704

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 2026-2027

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 19	Central Winds Park, Seminole County
Oct 17	Mead Botanical Garden, Winter Park
Nov 14	Pear Park Wildlife Conservation Area, Leesburg
Dec	Local Christmas Bird Counts (see *OASis* for dates)
Jan 16	Lake Lucie, Fields of Fame, Apopka
Feb 20	Orlando Wetlands, Orlando
Mar 20	Shingle Creek, Osceola County
Apr 17	Mead Botanical Garden, Winter Park
May 8	Global Big Day, Mead Botanical Garden, Winter Park

LIMITED EDITION FIELD TRIPS

Limited Edition Field Trips are restricted to 12 people. Costs: Half day – $15 members, $20 non-members; Overnight – $90 members, $115 non-members. Email Kathy Rigling to reserve— riglingkathy@gmail.com

Sat, Sep 12	Joe Overstreet Road and Landing, Osceola County
Sun, Oct 18	Brownie Wise Park, Osceola County
Sun, Oct 25	Birding by Bike, Orlando Wetlands, Orange County
Sun, Nov 8	Pine Meadows Conservation Area, Lake County
Sat, Jan 9	Your Biggest Year, Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive
Sun- Mon, Jan 23-24	Gainesville Birding Hotspots, Alachua County
Sat, Feb 13	Merritt Island Hotspots, Brevard County
Sat, Mar 13	River Lakes Conservation Area, Brevard County
Tues, Apr 27	Fort De Soto Park, Pinellas County
Sat, May 1	Lake Proctor Wilderness Area, Seminole County
Sat, Jun 5	June Challenge Kickoff, Orlando Wetlands

YOUNG BIRDERS FIELD TRIPS

For youths ages 8-17 (adult must accompany if under 16). Cost: FREE
Coordinator: Kathy Rigling — riglingkathy@gmail.com
Dates: Oct 4 and Nov 21, 2026; Feb 6, March 7 and Apr 17, 2027

LATINO CONSERVATION WEEK WALK

Location: Apopka Birding Park, Apopka, Cost: FREE
Fecha/Hora: Sep 12, 2026, 8:30–11:00 AM

BLUE SPRING BIRDING AND MANATEE BOAT TRIP

Includes Florida Scrub-Jay, warbler and manatee walk, and 2-hour boat trip
Trip Leader: Alan Shapiro with park staff and volunteers
Location: Blue Spring State Park, Volusia County, entrance fee
Date: Jan 9, 2027, $60 members; $75 non-members: (407) 637-2525

DISAPPEARING ISLAND AND ROOKERY BOAT TRIP

3-hour boat trip with Marine Discovery Center
Trip Leaders: Joan Tague and others
Location: Marine Discovery Center, New Smyrna Beach
Date: Mar 13, 2027, $60 members; $75 non-members: (407) 637-2525

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 5, 2026, 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 10, 17 and 24, 2026
Winter — Feb 7, 14 and 21, 2027; 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 youths 12 and under with registered adult

INTERMEDIATE BIRD IDENTIFICATION

Instructor: Maxfield Weakley — maxweakley@gmail.com
Locations: Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive and PEAR Park
2-part Class Dates/Time: Mar 6 and 13, 2027, 8:30 AM–12:30 PM
Class Limit: 12 participants
Cost: $50 members; $65 non-members

PHOTO WORKSHOPS

Green PLACE Nature & Photography Hikes
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, Nov 14, 2026, 9:00–11:30 AM Cost: FREE
Location: Crosby Island Marsh Preserve, east Orange County
Spring Date/Time: Sun, Feb 13, 2027, 9:00–11:30 AM Cost: FREE
Location: Greeneyes Wildlife Preserve, Apopka, west Orange County
Further Information: Green PLACE program — (407) 836-1408

YOUTH PHOTO WORKSHOP

Co-leaders: The Chin Family: Wei-Shen, Lauren, Nicole and Matthew
Date/Time/Location: TBA
Cost: $5. Youth under 16 accompanied by registered adult
Further Information: info@orangeaudubonfl.org

BIRD-FRIENDLY YARDS TOUR

Date/Time: Sunday, October 4, 2026, 8:00 AM–2:00 PM
Cost: $15, youth under 17 free
Details: Deborah Green — info@orangeaudubonfl.org

Special events

Nature Fest, Oakland Nature Preserve
Sep 26, 2026 — (407) 637-2525

Mead Botanical Garden Fall Bird Walks, Winter Park
Oct 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2026, 8:00 AM—(941) 704-1189

Backyard Biodiversity Day, Mead Botanical Garden
Oct 24, 2026 — (407) 637-2525

NORTH SHORE BIRDING FESTIVAL, Lake Apopka
northshorebirdingfestival.com/
Dec 3–7, 2026 — (407) 637-2525

Mead Botanical Garden Spring Bird Walks, Winter Park
Apr 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2027, 8:00 AM — (941) 704-1189

Chertok Nature Photography Contest
Deadline to submit all entries: Apr 15, 2027
Deadline to replace disqualified entries: May 15, 2027
Awards: Jun 17, 2027 — (407) 718-1977

Central Florida Earth Day, Lake Eola, Orlando
Apr 24, 2027 — (321) 239-2436

Apopka Art & Foliage Festival, Apopka
Apr 24–25, 2027 — (407) 637-2525

Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive 12th Anniversary
May 3, 2027— (407) 637-2525

Baby Owl Shower,
Audubon Center for Birds of Prey, Maitland
May 9, 2027 — (407) 718-1977

Rainbow Raptors (Pride Month event)
Audubon Center for Birds of Prey, Maitland
Jun 12, 2027 — info@orangeaudubonfl.org

Orange Audubon Online Auction
Jun 11–21, 2027 — (941) 704-1189
https://new.biddingowl.com/OrangeAudubonSociety

June Challenge Bird Walk and Top Birder Celebration
Jul 25, 2027 — 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 2026 — www.audubon.org/florida/projects/eaglewatch

Christmas Bird Counts
Dec 14, 2026–Jan 5, 2027 — See *OASis* for details.

Great Backyard Bird Count
Feb 12–15, 2027 — gbbc.birdcount.org

Jay Watch Training
May 2027 — www.audubon.org/florida/projects/jay-watch

To participate in any Orange Audubon activity, attendees must follow prevailing, event-specific, health, weather and other safety rules. Orange Audubon activities may change during the season. Refer to the *OASis*, our website or Facebook page (links on front cover) for updates.