

The JAY

The mission of the Seminole Audubon Society is to promote awareness and protection of the plants and animals in the St. Johns River basin in order to sustain the beneficial coexistence of nature and humans.

March – April – May 2015

A Publication of Seminole Audubon Society

Florida Breeding Bird Atlas II



Between 1986 and 1991 more than 1880 volunteers across Florida conducted bird surveys in an attempt to document the breeding distribution of all bird species in the state.

The resulting Breeding Bird Atlas (BBA) can be found on the Florida Ornithological Society's (FOS) website fosbirds.org.

The BBA is a very useful tool. Among other things, it is used as an element in many environmental impact studies upon which land use and land management decisions are made. As we all know, the landscape of Florida in 2015 is vastly different than what existed here between 1986 and 1991. It is time to update the BBA. The FOS and numerous cooperating agencies and organizations, such as Seminole Audubon Society, are involved in a 5-year volunteer project that will result in the Florida Breeding Bird Atlas II (BBA II).

Do you have any records that you have not submitted from 2011-2014 that are indicative of breeding birds? If so, we would like your data. Log sheets will be available at our March meeting, or you can send a request for a copy to seminoleaudubon@gmail.com.

The BBA II is a grid-based survey using the USGS 7.5 minute topographic quadrangles (quads). Each quad is broken into 6 survey blocks. We are fortunate to have Greg Bretz as the volunteer coordinator for Seminole County. Seminole Audubon Society (SAS) is helping with the "Sanford" and "Sanford SW" quads, or quad #3911 and #3912. Maps and information on species that have been recorded thus far are available on the Florida Ornithological

See Bird Atlas on page 11

The printing and mailing of this newsletter is made possible in part by the generous donations of Bob and Inez Parsell and ACE Hardware stores in Sanford, Longwood, Casselberry, and Oviedo.

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Vacant	Historian	

WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS

and Members NEW to our Chapter

Gene Anderson	Geneva
Robert Andres	Sanford
Bonnie Dalton	Sanford
Stacie Disbennett	Sanford
Barbara Horal	Lake Mary
Noni Ludwig	Lake Mary
Bobbi & Kevin Meisel	Maitland
Tammy Menke	Deltona
Geri Parker	Sanford
Rosemary Robinson	Lake Mary
Kathy Rowe	Altamonte Sprgs.
Diana Sebelle	Sanford

Birding Basics

Faith Jones and Shirley Folse with assistance from Shirley Reilly and Joy Rector taught the two January sessions of our Birding Basics course. There were a total of 38 participants from 15 to 89 years of age. The classes are both fun and informative. The class included how to create a healthy habitat in your backyard to attract birds and how to look at a bird when you see one to determine its species.

In addition to the good birds seen on the trips to Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, both classes were fortunate to see great birds during classes at Geneva Wilderness Area. Northern bobwhites at the feeders and brown-headed nuthatches on the trail were a thrill for all.



Good News

The eastern red knot was listed this past December as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. The birds depend on the eggs of horseshoe crabs in Delaware Bay during their 9300 mile migration stopover. The crabs are being used for bait and their blood used by the medical industry. The listing should enable authorities to place restrictions on crab harvesting. And climate change threatens red knots' shoreline habitats. Eastern red knots have declined by 75% since 1980.

The western population of the yellow-billed cuckoo was listed in November as a threatened species in 12 western states. Populations have been declining due to loss of their riparian woodland habitat due to river flow management and overgrazing. The next step will be development of a recovery plan. Riparian restoration has already begun in a few states.

As a result of a legal settlement, the federal government will be required to expand the protected habitat area for the endangered Atlantic right whale by February 2016. The threat to these whales was explained at one of our Seminole Audubon meetings several years ago. Only 500 are thought to exist. The government will have to insure slow speeds for vessels across protected areas and reductions in hazardous fishing nets and lines. Loud noises associated with oil exploration and drilling will also be an issue to resolve.

President Obama requests "Wilderness" protection for the Arctic Refuge. President Eisenhower established the Refuge in 1960 but Refuge status does not protect a place from oil and gas development. Only designation as Wilderness can achieve that goal. Congress must approve the request. A spokesman for the President said the US is already the number-one producer of oil and gas in the world and the Coastal Plain is too precious to put at risk. You can thank President Obama for supporting Wilderness protection for the Arctic at this NAS website:

http://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/320/986/347/?TAP=1319&cid=hl_petition_postinfo

Sam Kendall

2016 Initiative Reduces Barriers to Solar Energy

Polls show that solar energy is just as favorable to Florida residents as last year's Amendment One, approved by ¾ of all voters. That's not surprising since both issues are about conserving natural resources. However, Florida ranks 20th among states for installed solar power per capita. Even states with less sunshine, such as Vermont and New Jersey, have more solar installed than Florida. California is on track to supply 33% of their electricity from renewable solar and wind by 2020. Florida gets .01% from solar electricity, 2% biomass electricity and zero wind. Why does Florida lag behind?

The rules that govern the Florida Public Service Commission and the Commissioners themselves are a big part of the problem. The PSC regulates rates investor-owned utilities charge customers and in turn the utilities are protected from competition and choose what fuel to use. Only approved utilities can sell electricity. And recently the commissioners abandoned a previous rule that required utilities to fund customer energy efficiency and rooftop solar programs. The rules that drive the PSC put a higher value on "fair" customer rates than on high pollution costs. These combined factors among

others have frustrated transitioning to clean energy sources.

“Market forces” are now making these barriers redundant. Prices for solar photovoltaic modules are now low enough to compete with traditional energy sources. If independent solar companies were allowed to build community solar farms in Florida and sell the electricity to neighbors the ratio of solar energy production would be up where it ought to be. Solar companies see Florida as a highly favorable business opportunity. Now a coalition of right and left political persuasions is gathering petition signatures to make that opportunity real.

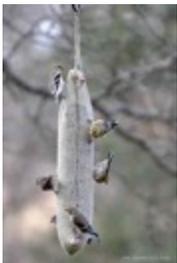
The *Floridians for Solar Choice* 2016 ballot initiative would allow residents the freedom to buy electricity from independent solar producers. For instance, a company could install a solar system on your house at no cost to you. Then you would buy the solar electricity from that company. This would give you the opportunity to contract at a fixed price because the fuel source is stable. A building owner with a solar system the size of the one on the Orange County Convention Center could sell the electricity to tenants or contiguous neighbors. Community solar arrays could power adjacent homes with no interference from utilities. Updating our monopolistic utility structure in this way could mean economic benefits for consumers and businesses. It would also hasten the urgent transition to non-carbon, safer fuels.

The Coalition is making presentations at cities around the state. Utility companies will be watching closely and debate during the next year should be animated. You can download the petition at <http://www.flsolarchoice.org>

Sam Kendall

Thistle Socks Still Available

Thistle socks, made by SAS volunteers, are available at our program meetings. They are seed-filled, hand-crafted thistle socks, each with a bag of seed (approximately 2 lbs. of seed.) A donation of \$4.00 is suggested. This is the favorite seed of our wintering American goldfinches.



Bird Bits

There is still time to get your bird questions answered. Email your questions to seminoleaudubon@gmail.com and we will do our best to answer them at the next meeting.

Upcoming Trips

Last minute changes do occur, so it is essential that you notify us in advance if you plan to participate in any of our trips. A liability release must be signed.

Trips are open to the public.

Ways to Contact Us:

1. www.meetup.com/SeminoleAudubon-com
2. E-mail: sarahdonlan42@gmail.com
3. Call: Sarah Donlan 407-687-6087
4. Sign up at Program Meetings

Mar 14 Saturday – Crystal Lake Preserve This is a combined trip to CLP with Cuplet Fern Chapter FNPS. Crystal Lake Preserve, Lake Mary. Guided walk through this beautiful local preserve. Meet at 9:00 am in the back part of the Timacuan Golf Clubhouse parking lot, 550 Timacuan Blvd., Lake Mary, for this trip with the Cuplet Fern Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society. We will carpool to this preserve that is open by appointment only. Take this opportunity to hike this secluded 40-acre property, the largest undeveloped property left in Lake Mary. Although there is only about a mile of trails, there is much to see. Our hike leader is Jim Denslow, a passionate volunteer with the Preserve. Free. Space limited.

April 7-8 Tuesday (one night) - Fort De Soto Park, 3500 Pinellas Bayway S., Tierra Verde, FL 33715. Pinellas County Park, 328 species of birds, diversity of plant life, 1136 acres. America's Top Beach in 2009. Reservations on your own for one night. Inexpensive hotels nearby as well as the park campground. Fee for entry. Ranger guided tour. Meet: Sanford Library, carpool/caravan/or on your own. 8:30 am

April 23, Thursday - Kraft Azalea Park, 1365 Alabama Dr., Winter Park, FL 32789. Great egret and anhinga rookery. Amazing large birds nesting in the trees on beautiful Lake Maitland.

Small hike in the park with many birds. Bring umbrella or hat, camera, binoculars, and walking shoes. Good restaurants nearby.
Meet: JoAnn's Fabrics parking lot, Seminole Towne Center, at 8:45 am or at the Park by 9:30 am. Free.

Trip Notes

Twenty SAS members and friends spent Valentine's Day birding at Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge (MINWR). Some of our group were able to take the Ranger-led van tour while the rest toured Blackpoint Wildlife Drive with Faith Jones, Pam Meharg, and Leslie Martin helping ID the birds. It was a chilly morning, but the birds were cooperative. We tallied 47 species including a large number of American avocets and more American coots than we could count. Ducks were not found in the large numbers we have seen in previous years. We did find a few blue-winged teal, green-winged teal, northern shoveler, American wigeon, and lesser scaup. But, northern pintails were not to be found. As always, MINWR did not disappoint and we saw many beautiful birds.



Hontoon Island and the Dead River Pontoon Boat Ride

Fifteen Seminole Audubon members and guests met to carpool to DeLand, FL, on January 22nd, for our river adventure. Captain Bob of Blue Heron Tours met us at Hontoon Landing and immediately pointed out a magnificent Bald Eagle flying down the river in search of breakfast. Parading up and down and finally choosing two or three perches in trees just across the river. The eagle was intent on entertaining us with displays of performance flying and providing spectacular photo opportunities. That pretty much set the tone for our day, which far exceeded our expectations for an exciting tour. The morning breeze was just cool enough for sweatshirts, but immediately warmed up to Florida winter expectations.

Our tour, slated to be two hours, turned into a three-hour exciting viewing of some of the St. Johns River's most glorious wildlife. At least twenty-five species were counted including: double-crested cormorants and anhingas sunning themselves. White ibis were in the trees in large groups. We saw rafts of American coots. Snowy egrets and great egrets were seen in abundance. It seemed as if



little blue herons and turtles were at almost every turn. We enjoyed watching manatees eating their greenery, and various species of ducks. A tiny Savannah sparrow caught our eye, as did a beautiful purple gallinule walking the lily pads. Several large alligators were observed, including one so large that the boat doubled back so that everyone could observe his size on the log. Turkey and black vultures were abundant, but the surprise, most rare for the majority of us, was a black-crowned night-heron (seen in photo below).

To tell of all we saw leaves us breathless. Captain Bob was a fountain of knowledge of all things plant and animal, backed up by our stalwart member, Jim Denslow. We even had the opportunity to see several great blue herons building nests along the waterway. Spring on the River promises to be a major event this year with birds in abundance. We will go again soon.

Sarah Donlan (article and photos)



Sarah Donlan

Wiregrass Prairie Preserve, Volusia County

A Saturday morning in January is usually an ideal time to catch sight of several species of birds in the

underbrush. Rain the previous week had flooded some of the trails around the 1400-acre environmental lands park, so on January 17th, we layered our clothing, put on our mud boots, and started out on an unusually chilly day for us. However, the sun was bright and it turned out not to be as muddy as we thought, so our hike was a wonderful wintertime exercise. Unfortunately, few birds were to be seen. We heard Sandhill Cranes calling and Blue Jays in the distance. Several small species of birds quickly flew by and some of our more experienced birders gave a quick identification. Warblers and woodpeckers were along the path. A Wood Stork and Red-shouldered Hawk perched along the entry road.

The drive out to this park is one of the more scenic, rural ones lined with tree farms and ornamental palm gardens. The Osteen address is not representative of the lay of the land at Wiregrass. There are tall pines, scrub palms, and various brushy areas with a stream running through the preserve. Quite a few native plants were spotted, which lived the walk as well. Close to Sanford and Lake Ashby and easily accessed from Maytown Rd. and 415, it is a refreshing, relaxing hike. There are promises of Bachman's Sparrows seen there on occasion. We'll listen for their sweet song the next time we go.

Avian Rehabilitation Center

Seminole Audubon was treated to a wonderful program at this worthwhile facility in Apopka on a beautiful Saturday morning, December 20th. Fourteen members and guests arrived at the rural property, which houses many rescued birds. Unusual species were on display, many of which are seldom available to be seen up close and personal for most people.



Sarah Donlan

The birds that come to the Center are presented when they cannot take care of themselves. Some have major injuries, incurred in flight as well as at the hands of humans: damaged wings, feet, or beaks that leave them with no ability to survive on

their own. The Rehab Center works with local vets to get them the healing care that they need and then provides them with a home that simulates their natural habitat as closely as possible. Some are free to fly and return to their handler's gloved arm to retrieve their favorite treat. Food is, of course, a great motivator.

The Center relies strictly on volunteers who give their time to display and work with these birds; the center is always seeking contributions that will support their work. They do an excellent and caring job. At least 20 different birds were brought out for our adoration and a talk was given on each one: various species of owls, red-shouldered hawks, kites, red-tailed hawks, vultures, and, of course, two very beautiful bald eagles. Some of the birds came from imprinting on humans at a very young age and now rely on that association for their survival. This builds a unique relationship that allows us to see the interaction of humans and birds. An imprinted bird takes on a personality, much like a dog or cat, making the human the center of attention and expecting that human to participate in its rituals as well as participating in the human's rituals. Mealtime, again, is one of those. Petting is not something that they participate in; these are wild animals, after all.

ARC has perfected the art of displaying their rehab birds so that the public can appreciate the job that they do and the need for continued guardians of these birds to insure a long life. It was an extremely informative day. **Sarah Donlan**



Sarah Donlan

Program Notes

January Program



Jacqui Sulek, Chapter Conservation Manager for Audubon Florida, was our guest speaker at the January 11th program. She shared a video from the National Audubon Society's new Campaign, Audubon's Birds and Climate Change Report. The video reminded us that climate change is altering the availability of food and suitable nesting and wintering grounds for many birds. On a positive note, Jacqui reminded us that we can make a difference by providing a bird-friendly habitat in our own yards.

She recommended planting native plants and avoiding invasive species. She reminded us that insects are a vital part of many birds' diets and that having water available along with shelter and the proper food will provide a desirable habitat for birds. We learned that freezing a jug of water, poking a small hole in it, and hanging it so birds can hear the 'drips' makes an irresistible source of water for birds!



Sarah Donlan

Pam Meharg reminded us how Audubon members played a key role in collecting signatures to get Amendment 1 on the ballot and then helped deliver the vote on Election Day. She emphasized that now is the time to show our support to ensure the proper implementation by the Legislature. Time is of the essence. Pam provided information about the website set up by the Senate where comments can be submitted about the Amendment 1 funding process. The website is <http://www.flsenate.gov/media/topics/wlc>

February Program



The three main components of our February 8th meeting were Marty Shepherd's Bird Bit about Carolina wren and tufted titmouse using the same nesting site, Faith Jones' Great Backyard Bird Count Powerpoint, and the Puffins program.

Did you know when pufflings (baby puffins) leave their burrow they spend 2-3 years alone at sea? Mature puffins spend 7 months of the year at sea, and come to land only for breeding season. This and lots of other information about puffins was including in Faith's presentation. A video on Dr. Steve Kress and Project Puffin was shown. Congratulations to Jean Jarvis who won the main door prize, a copy of *Project Puffin: How We Brought Puffins Back to Egg Rock*. Thanks to all who brought refreshments.

Upcoming Programs

Seminole Audubon Society's monthly meetings are held the second Sunday of the month in the **Fellowship Hall of First Presbyterian Church, 320 S. Park Ave., Sanford.**
Mar 8 **Birds that Breed in Central Florida – 2:00 pm (Time change! Spring Forward!)**

Some birds are cavity-nesters while others build their own nests. Some species use Spanish moss in their nests; others use spider webs. This program will feature the nesting requirements and habits of the birds that breed locally. It will include how many eggs are laid, how long they incubate, and at what age the young fledge. We will also explain the Florida Breeding Bird Atlas II project and ways you can volunteer to help with this important venture.

Apr.12 **Birds, Birds, Birds – Potluck - 1:00 pm**

The April program will begin at 1:00 pm instead of 2:00 pm and is a potluck. Please bring a dish to share.

Please send your bird photos and we will help you learn their names and how to ID them. Please email them to seminoleaudubon@gmail.com by April 3rd. Study up on bird sounds. There will be a friendly competition to identify various bird calls. The meeting will also include election of board members.

Top Shelf

The Wonder that Comes from Knowing One's Roots, a review of Ecology of a Cracker Childhood

There is much to catch one's attention in *Ecology of a Cracker Childhood* by Janisse Ray. The book, published in 1999, is a cornucopia of biographical anecdotes and adventures, environmental issues and concerns, historical overview of the coastal plains of Georgia, and a love letter poetically scripted to the landscape in which the author grew up. The inherent pleasure in reading this book is that all four aspects are seamlessly sewn together, so that by turning from one page to the next, the reader never loses the thread that runs through the narrative and always emerges from one chapter to the next, impressed and moved by the author's passion for her subject: life in the Georgian plains amidst the much endangered longleaf pine.

To begin with, one might wonder why the author employs the phrase "cracker childhood." Ms. Ray, according to her own descriptions, grew up in a junkyard, owned and operated by her mother and father, located in the small town of Baxley, Georgia, with a population of 3,500 in 1970 and with not much more in 1990, only 3,800. Baxley is situated in the uplands and lowlands of southern Georgia and is "about as ugly as a place gets." It is an area that was originally settled by borderland Scotsmen, people accustomed to living a rugged, poor, but

independent life, mostly rural and highly clannish people, not accepting of outsiders.

What was particularly attractive about the area, however, was the longleaf pine, a tree that can grow to be 100 feet tall and live as long as 500 years. Ms. Ray is proud to be a “cracker” because her roots are in that land, just as the longleaf pine’s roots are. Generations of Rays, formerly, the “wild McRaes” from Scotland, settled this and lived in the area until big lumber interests eventually pushed the longleaf pine to near extinction. And here, we see that our author is not only describing her childhood memories, playing and cavorting amidst the junk -- abandoned cars and car parts, alternators, windshields, hubcaps, scrapped sewing machines, discarded vacuums – but also giving us insight into an environmental tragedy. According to her data, the longleaf pine once covered an area of 85 million acres in its southeastern range, from southern Virginia to eastern Texas. By 1930, most of the virgin pines had been chopped down for lumber and turpentine, leaving only first- and second-growth. By 1995, an ecologist from the National Biological Service classified the pine as severely endangered, one of the most threatened ecosystems in America.

In one short chapter, “Built by Fire,” the author regales us with what could be read as a creation myth. We learn of the million-year-old relationship between lightning, a common occurrence still today in that area, and the longleaf pine, and how the tree and the undergrowth of wiregrass and other plant species adapted to the constant onslaught of fire, evolving methods and means to not only survive but to flourish. The tree began to fill its needles with volatile resin and oils; it produced cones that were resplendent with seeds dispersed by the wind even in the event of fire. Eventually, this evolution resulted in a symbiotic relationship through which the longleaf could prosper and increase its territory; it is resistant to fire, but also dependent on it. For the seeds of a longleaf pine to germinate, they require bare mineral soil. Thus, without fire to keep in check the overcrowding by other plant life in the understory, the longleaf seeds would not propagate and develop.

Simply reading the names of some of the chapters - “Child of Pine”, “Forest Beloved”, “Hallowed Ground” - affords us a sense of Ms. Ray’s wonder, love, and appreciation for this Georgian environment, and sadly, for the nostalgia of its loss. She discloses that as the winds gust through the different groves, diverse sounds and melodies are produced depending on the type of tree and leaf caressed by the wind and she asserts that these

sounds can be distinguished and thus savored. What a triumph to be able to value one’s environment and wish to protect it and advocate for it.

The longleaf pine forest was an old-growth forest. It provided a habitat for a multitude of plant and animal species in its understory: 150 to 300 species of groundcover plants, amphibians and reptiles, and breeding birds (more than any other southeastern forest type), many of which have been placed on the federal endangered species list. At a certain point in time, it was possible for a squirrel to traverse the distance between the Atlantic coast and the Mississippi River through these forests without once setting foot on ground. As Ms. Ray expresses it:

“Something happens to you in an old-growth forest. At first you are curious to see the girth and height of the trees, and you sally forth, eager....The blood begins to languish in your veins until you think it has turned to sap. You hanker to touch the trees and embrace them, and lean your face against their bark, and you do so. You smell them. You look up at leaves so high their shapes are beyond focus, into far branches, their circumferences as thick as most trees.”

Who could not lament the loss of such a vital and ecologically-critical landscape?

Ms. Ray’s poignant and informative narrative gives us ample reason to protest the destruction of these and other environments. She does so by means of personal anecdote, historical data, scientific evidence, and the sheer beauty of her prose. *Ecology of a Cracker Childhood* is a tribute to our heritage and a call to our sense of what’s right and what should be defended.

Review by member: **Dawn Landon**

Urban Birding

There are many birds to be found in any city. The buildings are like cliffs and green areas can be seen by birds as a place to nest, rest, and feed. And bodies of water are much cherished by many species. Sanford is such an area, especially along the newly completed phase of the RiverWalk. On a recent morning walk from the Sanford library to the hospital and back, many different species were seen. Along the shores of Lake Monroe were American coot, common gallinule, anhinga, osprey, double-crested cormorant, little blue heron, and great blue heron. The pond near the water treatment plant is presently home to a wood stork

and in the pond in front of the hospital was a snowy egret, white ibis, and feral and domestic ducks.



An eastern phoebe, Carolina wren, and palm warbler were seen as well.



This urban birding outing was good exercise (two miles) and took about an hour of time. To find out more about urban birding, there is a link on the Cornell Ornithology website and a self-proclaimed urban birder at www.theurbanbirder.com.

Peggy Stickney (article) **Sarah Donlan** (photos)

Christmas Bird Count

This past December members of Seminole Audubon Society took part in the Audubon Christmas Bird Count, a citizen science project in its 115th year. The count takes place within the boundary of a pre-established, 15-mile diameter circle. Seminole Audubon counted sections 10 and 11 of this Wekiva Basin circle. These take up the eastern edge of the circle including areas of Sanford and Lake Mary. Some lists were turned in by people counting birds at the feeders in their back yards. Other lists were from local parks, cemeteries, or the shore of Lake Monroe. There were 67 species sighted in Zone 10 and 68 species in Zone 11.



Although final totals have not yet been confirmed and are still increasing, 50,679,477 birds were counted throughout the nation according to the National Audubon Society website. **Leslie Martin**

Discover Wekiva 2015

As part of Earth Day Celebration, Friends of the Wekiva River, Inc., invites you to be a part of **Discover Wekiva: Our Springs, Our Community, Our Future** on Saturday April 18, 2015, from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm at Katie's Landing, 262 Wekiva Park Drive, Sanford.

It will be a day of activities focusing on the preservation, protection and especially the enjoyment of the Wekiva River Basin and all it has to offer. There will be guided canoe/kayak tours, bird walk, native plant strolls, live animals from Central Florida Zoo and Audubon Center of Birds of Prey, speakers on various topics, environmental displays, food trucks, live music and more. Join Seminole Audubon in this day of celebrating and learning more about the Wekiva River Basin. More

information and detailed schedule of events will be available at friendsofwekiva.org.

The Planters are Filled



The team of SAS volunteers, headed up by Jim Denslow, have finished filling the planters at our new meeting place, First Presbyterian Church, Sanford. Be sure to take a look when you arrive at the March 8th meeting. They did a great job and there should be some blooms this Spring. Peggy Stickney gathered some 'little hands' to help water the plantings.

Facebook and Twitter

Be sure to Like Us on Facebook to see photos and notifications of upcoming events and programs. Follow us on Twitter for photos and reminders of what SAS is busy doing. Follow us at: SeminoleAudubon@AudubonSeminole.

Scan the QR Code below with your mobile device to go to our web site.



Bird Atlas, from page 1

Society web site, www.fosbirds.org/bba2news.

Our goal is to confirm breeding for as many species as possible during the next two breeding seasons. To succeed in obtaining the necessary data we must recruit interested parties to actively participate on the atlas project. Greg will be at our meeting on March 8 to explain the plan for the 2015 breeding season and answer any questions. You can participate in the field, or by monitoring your yard. We hope you will consider participating in this important project.

If you have questions, or if you want to report a record, or discuss a record, please contact Greg directly at 407-339-9251 or jgregbretz@aol.com

Calendar, from page 12

OTHER EVENTS

- Tue. March 3 **Planning Your Attack on Invasive Species** 6:30-9:30 pm Seminole Co. Ext.Ctr. 407-665-5560
- Sat. April 4 **Nocturnal Animals** 7-9 pm Chuluota Wilderness Area. \$3.00 Must pre-register 407-349-0959
- Sat. April 18 **Discover Wekiva** 9 am – 3 pm Katie’s Landing, Sanford.
- Sat. April 25 **Swamp Walk** 8 -10 am Spring Hammock Preserve. \$3.00 Must pre-register 407-349-0959
- Sat. May 2 **Earth Fest 2015** Casselberry

- Sat. May 2 **Herp (Reptiles) Hike** 7-9 pm Geneva Wilderness Area. \$3.00 Must pre-register 407-349-0959
- Sat. May 16 **Nocturnal Animals** 7-9 pm Econ River Wilderness Area \$3.00 Must pre-register 407-349-0959

Membership Application

For New Audubon Members Only

JOIN for the special rate of \$20.00 for 1 year - that's \$15 off the regular membership dues!

When you join Seminole Audubon Society you also become a member of Audubon of Florida and the National Audubon Society. Your membership benefits include our newsletter *The JAY*, *Audubon Magazine*, and the *Florida Naturalist*. Most importantly, your membership will help us work for better preservation of the environment for the benefit of all species, including mankind.

Make checks payable to:
National Audubon Society,
and mail with this form to:
Seminole Audubon Society
P.O. Box 2977
Sanford FL 32772-2977

Name

Address

City

State _____ Zip _____

Phone and e-mail

If you join elsewhere, please use our Chapter Code:
C5ZE310Z

Seminole Associate Membership
\$10.00 / year
Available to Audubon Society members assigned to other chapters. Make check payable to Seminole Audubon Society.

Memberships are good gifts!

The JAY

Seminole Audubon Society
PO Box 2977
Sanford FL 32772-2977

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Calendar of Events

www.seminoleaudubon.org

PROGRAM Meetings are held on Sunday afternoons in the **Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church** located at **320 S. Park Ave.**, near downtown **Sanford**. Call 407-797-4636 for details.

Sun. March 8 2:00 pm Birds that Breed in Central Florida. Program features the nesting habits & requirements of our local breeding birds and the Florida Breeding Bird Atlas II.

Sun. April 12 1:00 pm POTLUCK Birds, Birds, Birds. Send your bird photos and we will help you learn their names and how to ID them. Please bring a dish to share. Meeting will also include election of board members.

FIELD TRIPS Details and registration information for all of these trips are in this issue of The JAY and on www.meetup.com/seminoleaudubon-com, sarahdonlan42@gmail.com, or 407-687-6087.

Sat. Mar. 14 **Crystal Lake Preserve**, Lake Mary. Meet 9:00 am Timacuan Golf Club for guided walk.

April 7-8 **Ft. De Soto Park**, Pinellas County. Overnight trip. Great opportunity to see migrating birds.

Thu. April 23 **Kraft Azalea Park**, Winter Park. Nesting wading birds will be our focus.

Crystal Lake Preserve, Lake Mary. Work mornings.

Thurs. March 12 & April 16. For time and meeting location, 407-323-4506 or bdenslow@cfl.rr.com

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