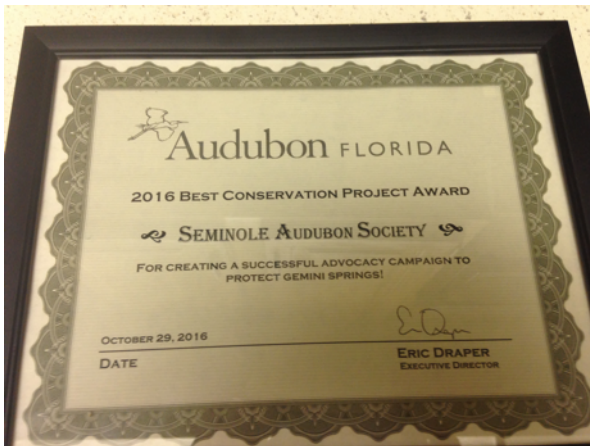


# The JAY

*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.*

January – February 2017 A Publication of Seminole Audubon Society

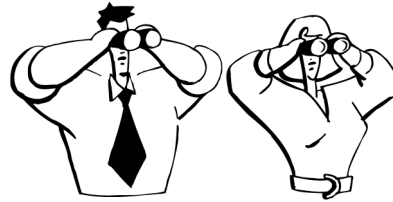
## Seminole Audubon Earns the 2016 Best Conservation Project Award



Seminole Audubon was awarded the 2016 Best Conservation Project Award by Audubon Florida for creating a successful advocacy campaign to protect Gemini Springs. A big 'Thank you' to Pam Meharg for accepting the award at this year's Audubon Assembly and for leading Seminole Audubon in this successful conservation effort! We were able to work with our conservation partners and local activists to protect this wonderful conservation property.

**Marguerite Terwilliger**

## Basic Birding Courses 2017



Our 4-session beginning birding course for birders of all ages will be offered afternoons and weekends in January. Our birding classes are held at the Ed Yarborough Nature Center in Geneva Wilderness Area, and offered in partnership with Seminole Co. Natural Lands Program.

The course is offered on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, January 10, 12, 17, & 19 from 1:00 -4:00 pm, or weekend mornings January 14, 21, 22, and 28 from 9:00 am – noon.

The third class (Jan 17 or 22) will be a field trip to Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. Cost \$30.00 Pre-registration required as space is limited. Details FaithAudubon@gmail.com or 407-797-4636.

**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.**

**2016-2017**  
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**407-797-4636**  
**seminoleaudubon@gmail.com**

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Vacant	Audubon Adventures	
Vacant	Hospitality	
Vacant	Historian	

**WELCOME**  
**NEW MEMBERS**  
**and Members NEW to our Chapter**

Diannetta W. Alexander  
Elizabeth Kelly  
Laura Mainelli  
Jean Nicolas  
Jennifer Buchanan  
Doris Hayward  
Rosemary Robinson  
Mary Sue Scott

Lake Mary  
Deltona  
Lake Mary  
Lake Mary  
DeBary  
Deltona  
Lake Mary  
DeBary

## SAS Purple Martin Project

Jim Peters has taken the lead on our Purple Martin project with the City of Sanford. A productive meeting was held on December 20, 2016 with Jim and Jan Peters and Faith Jones representing SAS and Robert Beall and Marc Hultin representing the Parks & Grounds Operations Division of the City of Sanford. During the meeting, Jim shared images of Purple Martins nesting in streetlights near the marina last summer. The City representatives agreed to allow SAS to erect two clusters of nesting gourds for Purple Martins and suggested two locations, which should be ideal.

Since the funding is available, Jim will coordinate the purchase of gourds, poles and installation materials. We should be able to install the gourds by

mid-January, in time to attract the male Purple Martins who generally begin scouting for nesting locations around that time. **Faith Jones**

## SAS History 1956-1959

### 3<sup>rd</sup> in a Series

This is the third in a series of articles giving a brief history of our Seminole Audubon Society Chapter, which was reorganized in 1949.

In the fall of 1956, all meetings were moved to the Superintendent of Schools Building in Sanford because of its central location between Geneva and DeBary. In the spring of 1957 meetings were changed to the fourth Monday evening.

The 1957-1958 meetings were held at various locations in Sanford. Beginning with this year, environmental legislation both in the State and nationally seemed to be in the forefront. At the November meeting, a member reported having a short interview with U. S. Congressman "Syd" Herlong. He assured the members that present boundaries of Everglades National Park would not be diminished and that improvements would be made.

A letter from Congressman Herlong was read at the January 27, 1958 meeting in which he replied to an SAS letter concerning the Wilderness Preservation Act. He stated that because of pressure for the missile program it was very difficult to arouse interest in conservation.

The April 1958 meeting was held at the new home of Florida Audubon on Lake Sybelia in Maitland.

Most meetings in the 1958-1959 Season were held at the School Building in Sanford. It was noted that our Chapter name does **not** come from the county but from the Seminole Indians who once lived in this area.

Letters were sent to Governor Leroy Collins asking that further research be done before eradication of fire ants is continued because of the possible threats insecticides pose to fish and other wildlife.

In January 1959, the Corresponding Secretary was directed to write the following Florida Senators and Congressmen in Washington in support of Wilderness Bill number S-4028:

U.S. Senator George Smathers

U.S. Senator Spessard Holland  
Congressman Dante Fascell  
Congressman Charles Bennett

At the March 1959 meeting, it was reported the state had turned over 70,000 acres to the National Park Service and that boundaries had been established for Everglades National Park.

**Myra Platel**

# Upcoming Programs

## Seminole County Natural Lands January 8

Lori Hartsock, Program Coordinator, for Seminole County Natural Lands Program will be our guest speaker. Seminole County currently has eight Wilderness Areas and one Preserve. Lori will discuss the properties, their education programs, and how the land is managed for wildlife and public use.

She will then introduce us to some local wildlife through examination of skulls. She will also bring a few native reptiles. If you so desire, you will be given the opportunity to hold these live animals.

Come learn about the Seminole County Natural Lands Program and meet some of the amazing creatures that live in our area!

## Kaleidoscope of Birds February 12

There will be three parts and three presenters for this program which will give you a taste of birding and other aspects of traveling outside our local area.



**Heart of the Amazon** Faith Jones had the opportunity to spend ten days in Brazil on a 48-foot boat traveling on the Amazon River and the Rio Negro, the main tributary that flows from Columbia. She will share her experiences and beautiful pictures of the many birds and other wildlife that

were observed.

**Birds of Panama** Jimye Kaye Russell and her husband John have traveled to Panama, Central America several times visiting friends who live in the remote rainforest jungle accessible only by boat about 20 miles SE of Isla Colon better known as Isla Bocas del Toro. Also traveling to Volcan and Cerra Punta in the Highlands of Panama, Jimye Kaye will share photos of the exotic birds and wildlife they encountered.



**Alaska:** Peggy Stickney, Joy Rector, Margaret Ziegler, and Suzanne Hutton explored the Kenai Peninsula, Denali National Park, and Cold Foot/Weisman.

In the Kenai Peninsula they were part of the Seminole Audubon Holbrook tour from June 7 – 13. Their guide Toby helped them to find 89 different species of birds and showed them the Kenai fjords, Exit Glacier, Sea life Center in Seward and other quiet spots.

On June 13 the four women drove from Anchorage to Healy and extended their vacation to June 19. In Denali National Park they saw Mount Denali (formerly known as Mount McKinley). They also flew to Cold Foot and Wiseman – above the Arctic Circle.



# Program Notes

## November: Swallow-tailed Kites

The presentation at the November meeting by Dr. Ken Meyer, Director of the Avian Research and Conservation Institute <http://arcinst.org/> was especially interesting for me. I had the surprising pleasure of hosting a swallow-tailed kite nest in one of the pine trees in my Altamonte Springs yard this year. Many of his descriptions about kite behavior were still vivid in my memory.

Why were they nesting in my yard in the city? Ken says kites are being sighted in suburban areas now and are even “knocking on the door” of their original habitat up into the Mississippi Valley. That larger population took a dramatic plunge around 1940 and since then their summer breeding population has been generally confined to the seven southeastern states. This existing population has remained stable and there is recent optimism for growth. ARCI conducts aerial population counts, taking photos at kite migration staging areas in Florida, then counting birds from the photos. Numbers have been increasing over the last 11 years with 10,000 recorded on a peak day in 2016. Ken estimates that the total US population could be 15,000 to 20,000.



Despite these good numbers the kite population continues to face generational obstacles. As they migrate north across the Gulf of Mexico wind shear can be highly obstructive and often deadly. They have adapted to built nests in industrially-managed forests. However, Dr. Meyer has seen confusion and



dispersal of tightly bound kite groups when they return in the spring to find their previous nesting area logged out. One morning on an aerial count Ken was confounded when he discovered an entire staging area of kites had disappeared. He later learned that a helicopter bearing an eager photographer had flown too close and scattered the flock. Pesticides are also a problem. Rising oceans are moving salt water up rivers and destroying fresh water wetlands, their preferred nesting area. Human population growth in Florida has heated up again with all the problems associated with preserving natural areas. Dr. Meyer's emphasis: "protect the areas where they are."

I was startled at my first kite observation here at home as I watched the first bird seemingly crash into the top of that long-needle pine tree. Dr. Meyer explained that these "primitive raptors" have evolved with a number of distinguishing characteristics. Their wings are designed for aerial lift and gliding which makes them so captivating to watch. But that advantage turns negative when they try to stop abruptly to land on a tree limb. Whoops, a crash landing! Also, the birds do not defecate over the side of their nests like other raptors. Parents cover the poop with vegetation material and over time the nest top can become a mound and sometimes a chick will topple off. Kites migrate over water at night. Their own internal hydration is better maintained without sunlight. And they capture prey with their feet and eat it while in flight.



**Photo: Lewis Gray**

Sociability is a defining characteristic of swallow-tails. Unlike other raptors they normally migrate and nest in groups. They are monogamous and dedicated to their young. I watched them escort predatory crows and vultures away from their new nest. On the day after the juveniles finally left eight swallow-tails in groups of four circled over my house simulating a military fly-by. I wondered whether

they were saluting a successful breeding location and marking it for next year. I returned the salute.

**Sam Kendall**

## **December: Wekiva Wild and Scenic River**



**Photos: Sarah Donlan**

Forty-one miles of the Wekiva River System was designated a Wild & Scenic River in 2000 through the National Wild & Scenic Rivers System. A coordinated federal, state, and local management committee, *Wekiva River System Advisory Management Committee* (WRSAMC), determine and implement the management plan of the Wekiva River. Eighteen stakeholder partners consisting of federal, state, local and private organizations hold membership on the committee. Our guest speaker, Virginia Oros, Wild & Scenic River Ambassador, explained the process and the five requirements for this designation. The Wekiva has five outstanding remarkable values (ORVs), which are necessary to achieve National Wild & Scenic River status. These values, which must be maintained to retain this status, are scenic, recreational, wildlife and habitat, historic, water quality and water quantity. The river must be wild and free-flowing.

Virginia then told us about a few of the many projects in which she, as Wekiva River Ambassador, is involved. They included two Bio Blitzes coordinated by Dr. Jay Exum in which 280 species of plants were added to the existing database for the area. Over 100 birds in 38 families and 40 species of fish in 18 families were also documented during the Bio Blitzes. There are ongoing Plant and Algae Surveys, Turtle Surveys, and, most fascinating to many in the audience, the nearly-completed



Bear Movement Study. The Bear Study involved tracking the movement of video and GPS-collared bears in the Wekiva Basin. Their movements are now being correlated with food supply, both natural and human provided via garbage.

The presentation concluded with images of and discussion of some of the threats to the Wekiva River and other water bodies in Florida. An explanation of hydrology in Florida was provided. Virginia touched on the negative impacts of nutrients from ill-maintained septic systems and fertilizer on our water. The negative effect of too much water being withdrawn from our aquifers was also demonstrated by images of springs in our state that no longer flow. Invasive and exotic plants and animals are also causing problems and a number were discussed in detail.

The WRSAMC has produced a useful and informative Paddle Guide to the Wekiva River System. These were distributed during the meeting.



A successful Silent Auction netted sufficient funds to cover the rental of the Woman's Club where we held this meeting. Thanks to all who donated items for the Auction, and to everyone that brought refreshments.

**Faith Jones**

# Trip Notes

## Disney Wilderness Preserve – November 19, 2016

Dr. Ross Hinkle, UCF professor and Zach Prusak, Manager of Disney Wilderness Preserve, discussed

the ecosystem and restoration of the 11,500-acre site during a swamp buggy ride.



The Disney Wilderness Preserve is in Osceola County and was created in 1993 to mitigate the wetlands lost to the development of the Walt Disney Resort. It is a joint project with Disney and Nature Conservancy. Research is conducted by U.S Fish and Wildlife Services, University of Central Florida and National Ecological Observatory Network.



The morning began with an overview of the Preserve. Ross Hinkle and Zach Prusak explained that this land had been considered to become a developed area. As you approach the Preserve you will see mass development, which makes one appreciate that this location has been preserved. This land is part of the headwaters of the Everglades.

We spent several minutes at the Cypress-lined shore of Lake Russell. This beautiful lake is surrounded by trees and has been photographed by photographer Clyde Butcher.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services helped relocate several pairs of endangered Red-cockaded Woodpeckers. We saw several of the man-made nest cavities - but the special cavity was a natural one made by the Red-cockaded Woodpeckers.

Zach Prusak is an expert on prescribed burning fire management. Different areas are burned at different intervals, such as the Florida Scrub Jay area needs to be burned to keep the scrub habitat. We saw several Florida Scrub Jays.

Ross Hinkle is conducting carbon dioxide research. There are towers at Disney Wilderness Preserve and University of Central Florida that measure CO2. As we were driving along the road we saw an Eastern diamondback rattlesnake.



If you are interested, you can hike and explore the Preserve on your own. **Joy Rector**

## Christmas Bird Count 2016



Seminole Audubon Society participated in the 117<sup>th</sup> Christmas Bird Count on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Some species found brought a lot of excitement - Nini Toro spotted a Common Goldeneye while Leslie

Martin saw a Red-headed Woodpecker In her tree. In area 3, Lorne Malo spotted a Woodcock, and Mary Acken found 2 Snail Kites on the St Johns River!

Faith Jones reported that there were some changes noted in Area 3. There was little or no water in the ditches and pond. The ponds that did have some water were clogged with algae and vegetation. As would be expected with these conditions we saw a noticeable decline in wading birds. We found only eight wading birds with no Anhinga, Cattle Egrets or Glossy Ibis. We also found no common gallinule or pied-billed grebes, both consistent species in past years. Our territory includes some industrial areas by the Port of Sanford. This year there was a noticeable increase in business activity and noise in that area so fewer birds were located. Although we logged 43 species, which is pretty average, there were fewer individuals and some fairly consistent species were missing.



Janet Mills and Marguerite Terwilleger logged 48 species in Area 11 this year despite a noticeable increase in construction and land clearing. Wading birds including Wood Stork, Tricolored Heron, Little Blue, and Snowy Egret were found in a small, nearly-clogged ditch. A Bald Eagle was spotted very near the Sanford airport. It was fun to find ten Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks and 18 total Hooded Mergansers from various ponds. Although there was only one instead of two spotted this year, it was exciting to spot the Crested Caracara again. Connie Dolan reported 36 species from Crystal Lake Preserve.

Sarah Donlan enjoyed participating in the Christmas Bird Count as she strolled along the Sanford RiverWalk counting doves, grackles, various egrets and ducks, Rock Pigeons, and White Ibis. The Red-shouldered Hawks were busy hunting the open spaces. She was stunned to see the beautiful Bald Eagle quietly sitting on a condo rooftop, looking out over the lake, waiting for an Osprey to catch him his breakfast.

It will be interesting to see Dr. Jay Exum's complete compilation and comparisons from the rest of the



Wekiva Basin area and note how it compares with previous years. **Marguerite Terwilleger**

# Upcoming Trips

Please read carefully for times and carpool information. If you have questions, please email [seminoleaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:seminoleaudubon@gmail.com)

## Sat. Jan 14, Lake Harney Wilderness Area, Geneva



Guided walk will end at the new observation tower, which is wheelchair- accessible. Leave Jo-Ann Fabrics, Seminole Towne Center at 8 am or meet at parking lot of property at 8:45 am. Explore One of Seminole County's Naturally Beautiful Places! The Lake Harney Wilderness Area (LHWA) is approximately 300 acres, located on the St. Johns River and the northwest shore of Lake Harney. This site is home to a historic crossing of the Flagler Railroad, Native American shell middens, several bald eagles' nests, oak hammocks and mixed hardwood swamps. This site also contains extensive floodplain marshes associated with Lake Harney which serve as important feeding grounds for wading birds and as a natural filter improving water quality.

## Jan 25-26 Overnight Jonathan Dickinson State Park & Blowing Rocks Preserve, Stuart & Hobe Sound FL.

Please contact Sarah Donlan for details at 407-687-6087 or email [seminoleaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:seminoleaudubon@gmail.com).

During the trip, visit a number of natural communities, Loxahatchee River, nature trails, pontoon boat, etc. Blowing Rocks is a restored barrier island. There are motel or campground accommodations.



Jonathan Dickinson Park teems with wildlife in 13 natural communities, including sand pine scrub, pine flatwoods, mangroves, and river swamps. The Loxahatchee River, Florida's first federally-designated Wild and Scenic River, runs through the park.

Blowing Rocks Preserve is a peaceful, barrier island sanctuary, which is a well-known model for large-scale, native coastal habitat restoration. A number of endangered plants and animals call this special place home – including rare loggerhead, green and leatherback sea turtles. The preserve was named for its rocky Anastasia limestone shoreline – the largest on the U.S. Atlantic coast. During extreme high tides and after winter storms, seas break against the rocks and force plumes of saltwater up to 50 feet skyward. It's an impressive sight. The native habitats include beach dune, coastal strand, mangrove swamp and tropical hardwood hammock and include black and white mangroves, gumbo limbo trees, Jamaica caper, sea grape, railroad vine, sea oats and much more. Seagrass along the lagoon harbors urchin and blue claw crab; the endangered Florida manatee can also be seen. Guests may spot a number of shorebirds such as the brown pelican, osprey and least tern.

## Sat. Feb. 18 Lake Apopka Restoration Area, Wildlife Drive

Birds of Prey ID with expert Bob Sanders. \$10 fee. Depart Jo-Ann Fabrics, Seminole Towne Center at 6:45 am or meet at entrance 7:30 am.

We have an exciting field trip scheduled for Saturday, February 18 as we tour Wildlife Drive at Lake Apopka Restoration Area on a Birds Of Prey ID excursion with raptor expert Bob Sanders. Bob was born and raised in New Jersey where he developed his love and respect for nature and birds, particularly raptors. In the late 1980s he helped



found the Chimney Rock Hawk Watch in Martinsville, NJ with birding luminaries Chris Aquila, Don Freiday and others.

Raptor identification can be challenging. Bob's approach is holistic, combining clues from typical field marks, physical structure, movement, habits, habitat preferences, seasonal distribution and vocalizations. Raptors are sometimes seen at considerable distances—perched or airborne. With care, patience and practice anyone can learn to identify and appreciate these magnificent and essential birds even, as Pete Dunn has said, at the “limits of conjecture.”

We have a wonderful opportunity to see Red-shouldered Hawks, Red-tailed Hawks, Northern Harriers, Bald Eagles, Sharp-shinned and Coopers Hawks as well as all the other species of birds that call Lake Apopka home. The restoration area is one of the top three birding areas for the entire state! During the winter months, more than 150 species regularly use the property. The bird list (2014) continues to grow and includes 362 species. Other wildlife routinely seen includes American alligators, turtles, river otters, bobcats and coyotes. Hope to see you there with Bob and the team! Depart Jo-Ann Fabrics, Seminole Towne Center, at 6:45 am or meet at the entrance of Wildlife Drive at 7:30 am. There is a \$10 fee to participate in this trip.

### **Thu. Feb. 23 Blue Heron River Tour, DeLand**

2-hr. narrated pontoon boat tour of St. Johns River. Manatees, shorebirds, some nesting sites. \$25 fee. Reservations required. Call Sarah Donlan at 407-687-6087.



### **North Florida Overnight Birding Trip March 26-29, 2017**



You will not want to miss this Spring birding trip to North Florida. We will stay in the historic lodge located in Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park, Crawfordville, Florida. This is on the south side of Tallahassee. For a limited time, a block of rooms has been reserved at a discounted rate. Please contact the Lodge directly (850-421-2000 or [wakullaspringslodge.org](http://wakullaspringslodge.org)) to make your reservation. You must mention Seminole Audubon Society to get the \$99 rate.

The feature of the trip will be a day at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge. The list of other activities will be finalized closer to the trip, but potential activities include: pontoon boat trip on Wakulla River, Bald Point State Park, Otter Lake, Bottoms Road, Mashers Sands Park, Apalachicola National Forest, Tall Timbers Research Station, Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory, and other Great Florida Birding Trail Locations.

Space is limited. If you are interested in more information, or would like to reserve a spot, please email [faithaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:faithaudubon@gmail.com).

## **Citizen Science Activities**

### **Black Bear Wilderness Area Bird Surveys**

One year of monthly bird surveys have been completed at Black Bear Wilderness Area (BBWA). We have counted our 15 survey points, which are approximately ½ mile apart in a clockwise direction. Over the year, eight SAS members have participated in these surveys volunteering 288 hours. During the year we documented 90 species on the property. We logged between 28 and 53 species

each month with an average monthly species total of 43. On our December survey we added Cooper's Hawk, Sedge Wren, and Hermit Thrush to our species list for the property.



We have enjoyed our time on the BBWA trail. Due to the length of time it takes to complete the route, and the possibility of documenting different birds at a different time of day, we have decided to survey the property for another year traveling our route in a counter-clockwise direction.

### Florida Scrub Jays

Our group of volunteers, fondly referred to as the Seminole Scrubbers, have been called back into action by St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) to assist with their Florida Scrub Jay management at Lake Monroe Conservation Area (LMCA). The results of this year's JayWatch surveys at LMCA were very exciting. Banded birds that were not seen in 2015 were found in 2016. There are a number of unbanded birds on the property. To enable more accurate data, banding the birds is very helpful. The Seminole Scrubbers will assist with the conditioning of the birds that hopefully will make the banding process easier for the SJRWMD scientists when they try to band the birds in mid-January.

### Jane Isle Wading Bird Surveys

Jane Isle Surveys will begin again during the month of January 2017.

### Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC)

February 17-20, 2017

[www.BirdCount.org](http://www.BirdCount.org)

If you have 15 minutes on any of these dates please count the birds in your yard and submit them for this important citizen science project.

## Lake Apopka Wildlife Festival and Birdapalooza Birding Festival

Orange Audubon Society invites Seminole Audubon Society to the **Lake Apopka Wildlife Festival & Birdapalooza Birding Festival**, January 20-22, 2017 on the 20,000-acre Lake Apopka North Shore. Two full-day trips and nine half-day trips, led by local birding guides and birding superstar Greg Miller of *The Big Year*, are offered, along with two dinners and keynotes.

See <http://orangeaudubonfl.org/birdapalooza> for details. On Saturday participate in the FREE family-oriented 5th annual Birdapalooza with photo walks, bird banding and guided bus tours. See [www.birdapalooza.com](http://www.birdapalooza.com).

## Snack Before You Snip

Your help is needed to clear aggressive vines strangling young pine trees that are struggling to grow at Crystal Lake Preserve (CLP) in Lake Mary.



But, before tackling this outdoor project, fortify yourself. We'll take time to breathe in the fresh air at this local natural area. Coffee and snacks will be provided.

Perks include an after-work riding tour of the property guided by one of the owners and current CLP Board President. This pristine property in the middle of development boasts over two miles of trails through a variety of habitats. The property borders Crystal Lake.

Bring your pruners, clippers, and gloves. Meet 8:45 am, Thursday, January 12, 2017, at the Timacuan Club parking lot, 550 Timacuan Blvd., Lake Mary. For more information: 407-323-4506.

## Find Us!

If you have a Facebook account, please take a few minutes to 'like us' and invite your friends to like us as well. If you have bird photos or information of interest to members, please email it to [seminoleaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:seminoleaudubon@gmail.com).



Follow us on Twitter at:  
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Scan the QR Code below with your mobile device to go to our web site.



## 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!

Joining Seminole Audubon Society makes you also a member of Audubon of Florida and the National Audubon Society. Membership benefits include our newsletter *The JAY*, *Audubon Magazine*, and the *Florida Naturalist*. 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**

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If you join elsewhere, please use our Chapter Code:  
**C7ZE310Z**

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Seminole Associate Membership  
\$10.00 / year  
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**Memberships are good gifts!**



# The JAY

Seminole Audubon Society  
PO Box 2977  
Sanford FL 32772-2977

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## Calendar of Events

**PROGRAM MEETINGS** are held at 2:00 pm on Sunday afternoons in the Meeting Room of the Seminole County Public Library located at 150 N. Palmetto Ave., Sanford, FL 32771. Call 407-797-4636 for details.

**Jan. 8,** Seminole County Natural Lands. Learn about our natural lands and meet some of their residents, presented by Lori Hartsock, Program Coordinator.

**Feb. 12** A Kaleidoscope of Birds. Three presenters will tell about their respective trips to the Amazon, Panama, and Alaska. They'll share fabulous photos of birds they saw.

### FIELD TRIPS

Details (time to meet, parking, car-pooling, registration, etc.) are in this issue of *The JAY* and on [www.meetup.com/seminoleaudubon-com](http://www.meetup.com/seminoleaudubon-com). For additional Information, email [seminoleaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:seminoleaudubon@gmail.com)

**Thurs. Jan 12** Crystal Lake Preserve. "Snack before You Snip" event.

## [www.seminoleaudubon.org](http://www.seminoleaudubon.org)

**Sat. Jan. 14** Lk. Harney Wilderness Area, Geneva  
**Jan 25-26** Overnight Jonathan Dickinson State Park & Blowing Rocks Preserve

**Sat. Feb. 18** Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive

**Thu. Feb. 23** Blue Heron River Tour

**March 26-29, 2017** North Florida Overnight Birding Trip

### BIRD CLASSES

**Jan 2017 Basic Birding** T/Th Jan 10,12,17,19 OR weekends Jan. 14,21,22, 28

### OTHER EVENTS

**CRYSTAL LAKE PRESERVE, LAKE MARY. WORK MORNINGS**

**Thursdays Jan 12, Feb 16** Contact Jim at 407-323-4506 or [bdenslow@cfl.rr.com](mailto:bdenslow@cfl.rr.com) for time and meeting location.

**January 20-22, 2017** Lake Apopka Wildlife Festival & Birdapalooza Birding Festival

**Jan 25-30, 2017** Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival

**Feb 17-20, 2017** Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC)

[www.BirdCount.org](http://www.BirdCount.org)