



# "Eagle's View"



November-December 2004 Volume 14, Issue 4

## Angels Perform Miracles With Heavy Equipment

Rae Bourquein

Many of us have wondered on sleepless nights how the 42 acres of Street Audubon Center (SAC) could be cleared of overgrown invasive species and native species be restored. An important problem has been the danger of fire spreading to the neighborhood in extremely dry weather. Paul Anderson, former Educator/Naturalist Dawn Spieth, and the Florida Forestry Service began discussions about these problems several years ago.

SAC lost innumerable trees in the 3 hurricanes that hit Polk County in the summer of 2004. The debris clean-up was massive; too much for volunteers with mere

chain saws to do on work days and much more than the over-worked, ubiquitous FEMA tree debris removal trucks could carry away.

**Enter the Florida Forestry Service with massive machinery. The crew cleared a 30-yard fire break along Lameraux Road, and along the houses that abut SAC on East Heron Place and Heron Circle, all the way to the Lake. They cleared a fire break around the cottage and Howe House. We can't thank them enough.**

Boy Scouts have worked to remove more bamboo recently. Scout groups may return to work on reconstructing trails. Most trails

are obliterated at this point - even those completed as an Eagle Scout project only 5 months ago.

The objectives now are to keep invasive species from re-installing themselves and to plant native species. We still have lots of bamboo, melaleuca, air potato vines, brazilian pepper, cat's claw, queen palm, rosary pea vine, etc., to eradicate.

SAC was closed to the public from August through September during the clean-up by the Florida Forestry Service.

**Angels do perform miracles. Thanks to the Florida Forestry Service for their dedication to our urban forest.**

## Open House, Roast Pork Dinner and Grand Re-opening, Street Audubon Center Sunday, November 14, 2-6 pm

With development paving over Polk County, Marvel Loftus decided to demonstrate just how valuable Street Audubon Center is to our nearby neighbors, our Audubon members and the people of Winter Haven. She proposed we showcase our many programs and the center itself with an open house.

We'll hold a drawing for prizes including a beautiful carved wooden bird, framed photos by Tony Catalano, a *Sibley Field Guide To Birds*, a Butterfly Book, and a year's membership to Lake Region Audubon.

The Open House begins at 2:00 pm. The home-cooked roast pork dinner will begin at 4:00; adults \$6.00, children under 5 are free. Reservations are required; to reserve, call Marvel Loftus, 863.324.9657, [www.MARVEL769@aol.com](http://www.MARVEL769@aol.com).

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## Hurricane Charley Changed Street Audubon's Landscape

Chuck Geanangel

The forestry team has finished up on their clearing project at our center or at least their equipment is all gone.

They did what we asked and cleared the brush away from the south and east edges of the property leaving the larger trees, and they cleared brush away from both buildings. With the massive tree damage from the three storms and the clearing project, you will not recognize the Street Audubon grounds.

We have much to do. The trail system was obliterated or covered with overflow from Lake Ned; it doesn't exist. We must start from scratch in laying out a new system of trails.

The next step is to plant native vegetation to restore the land to the way it was before any homes, groves, or exotic plant gardens existed - before the seeds and roots of the endemic, invasive, exotic growth re-grows.

## Lake Region Audubon Tee Shirts

Ann Pinner

You've heard about these shirts. They are almost here! Our tee shirts will feature native Gulf Fritillary butterflies and their host, the native Passion Vine. Adult sizes will be available soon; we will order children's sizes later for the NatureFaire.

When the cost is determined, I will take orders from volunteers; Marvel will take orders and provide information to the Bird Club. Questions: Ann Pinner, 863.956.2374, [annpin@aol.com](mailto:annpin@aol.com).

## Pat Herbert Memorial Butterfly Garden

Pat Herbert wanted to improve the butterfly garden around the entrance to Howe House to the memory of Harlan Herbert. This project is being undertaken. For information, call Carrie at 863.683.8094.

## Howe House Interior To Be Refurbished

Suzie Brantley, Gina Lucas, and Carrie Plair are the committee to make Howe House more attractive, yet keep the style of the 1920s when it was built. Look for their innovations and beautifications and thank them. The first improvement will be new large folding tables.

## Entomologist Lewis Wright Donates His Collection To Audubon

Lewis Wright has exhibited his insect collection at NatureFaires to the delight and fascination of children and adults. Chuck Geanangel accepted the extensive collection, housed in cabinets, for Lake Region Audubon Society. For a photo of Lewis and visitors looking at his exhibits, go to [www.lakeregion.net](http://www.lakeregion.net) and select **NatureFaire Photos** in blue at the right; two photos of the insect display are in the second row.

## The Audubon EagleWatch Recruits Volunteers

This monitoring program of nesting Bald Eagles collects information about eagles, nest locations, nesting activities, and possible threats or disturbances of active nest sites. Volunteer participants are educated in Bald Eagle natural history and nesting biology, applicable laws, the identification of nest threats, and the verification of previously unrecorded active nests.

Data compiled from the program is forwarded to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to assist their annual aerial eagle nesting survey and to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to record nesting activities of Florida eagles, particularly those in urban areas.

If you want to participate in Audubon EagleWatch, or know of someone who may be interested, please R.S.V.P. to [eaglewatch@audubon.org](mailto:eaglewatch@audubon.org) or 407.644.0190 for further information. Plan to attend the Polk County workshop on Saturday, November 13, 10-1:00 at Larry R. Jackson Branch Library, 1700 N. Florida Ave., Lakeland, 863-834-4288.

## A Letter From Charles Geanangel

Charles Geanangel

This is a Lake Region Audubon appeal letter. No, no don't get out your check book; we don't want your hard earned cash. We want you! I have been an active member of the LRAS for 30 years and many of our members have been in the society at least as long. We used to plan our programs at our monthly board meetings with 30 or more people and over the years we offered a wide variety of events and services to our members. You know the field trips, outdoor programs, the NatureFaires, the conservation work and the like. Lately fewer and fewer members have been involved with the planning. This is where you come in. We need your help in providing a quality experience for our membership. No prior experience is necessary.

To volunteer at the Street Nature Center call Ann Pinner at 956-2374. To help Marvel at her events at the center call 324-9657. To help Carrie with the Native Plant sale call 683-8094. To help with trail work at the center call Paul Anderson at 965-8241. To help Rae with the newsletter call 863-425-3003. If you want to help but don't know where, show up at any board meeting at the Street Audubon center at 7 pm (second Wednesday of every month) or call me at 863.326.5748.

So come on down, it's a great way to meet new friends and we desperately need your help.

## Newsletter Editor And Web Master Needed Previous Editor Takes Sabbatical

Rae Bourquein

I've enjoyed my 7 years of editing the newsletter; it is time to pursue my own big projects. Audubon of Florida (AOF) has hinted they may publish a state-wide newsletter and include our info. Our board and AOF will work this out. If needed, I will be glad to assist the new editor and the new webmaster.

Thanks to Bal Goleman for 7 years of professional proofreading (all errors are my own), Lynn Powell for maintaining the address list and printing the labels, Marvel Loftus for addressing and mailing the letters, and to my husband for solving technical problems, keeping the machines working, and encouraging me.

Thanks to everyone who helped in any way.

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## Four Hurricanes Didn't Stop Saddle Creek Bird Walks

Bob Snow



In spite of 3 hurricanes, we were able to bird at Saddle Creek Park every weekend since mid-August; the trail remained passable. The storms took their toll on the trees; much more sunlight is getting through now with a large part of the canopy gone. I think the storms definitely interrupted the normal migration. We have had some good birds, but not in usual numbers or variety.

With only one week of Saddle Creek walks to go, 133 people participated. We observed a total of 87 bird species, and 27 warbler species.

The highlights for the season, were a total of 20 sightings of Magnolia Warblers, 11 on one Saturday; 2 Bay-breasted Warblers; 4 Golden-winged Warblers; 1 Wood Thrush and several sightings of the Short-tailed Hawk, light and dark morph. All in all, a great season, considering the weather.

**Thanks, to Bob Snow for being responsible for the Saddle Creek walks. Thanks to Larry Albright and all the others who facilitate these annual walks in one of the finest fall birding sites in the southeastern U.S. from mid-August through October.**



Brooke Pottery  
223 North Kentucky Avenue  
Lakeland, Florida 33801  
phone: 863-688-6844  
[www.brookepottery.com](http://www.brookepottery.com)

## Tenoroc Saddle Creek Tract Loop Trail Will Open The Afternoon of December 11

Watch Tom Palmer's column for more information. The ribbon cutting ceremony begins at 1:30 at Saddle Creek Park HQ; the sunset trail hike led by members of the Florida Trail Assn. will begin at 3:10 pm. The new 1.2-mile loop trail starts near the Saddle Creek Park HQ and goes north over a bridge.

Eventually the trail will grow to 10 miles and connect Saddle Creek County Park to the Tenoroc Fish Management Area trail system. It will be a nice addition to our migrating bird walks every August-October.

Danon Moxley of Fish and Wildlife Service said the new Tenoroc Saddle Creek Tract loop trail is not for the weak of heart. It has hills to climb; during Florida's rainy season be prepared to get your feet wet. In the warmer months, insect repellent and water is a must. Nevertheless, it provides a unique look at Florida's environment and is one of the many outdoor recreational opportunities offered at Tenoroc.

The trail offers the hiking public a view of both mined landforms that have been naturally reclaimed and undisturbed portions of the Saddle Creek floodplain. Visitors will see a variety of plant and animal life associated with a typical river floodplain. From Saddle Creek Park, the eastern portion of the trail lies on top of dikes created by mining operations in the late 1960's. Along either side, visitors will overlook two naturally reclaimed phosphate pits har-

boring a variety of birds and reptiles. On the northern end, visitors will have their choice of continuing along the top of the dike or following its toe. Along the toe of the dike, visitors looking north will see a typical Florida floodplain. On the western end of the loop trail, the path returns to the top of the dike for a short distance then runs along the dike's toe all the way back to the trail's beginning. Planned expansion in 2005, with funding from the Greenways and Trail Program, will include an observation platform along the loop trail, a marked crossing on Saddle Creek Road, and an additional pedestrian bridge connecting a new trail section to Tenoroc's horseback riding/hiking trail.

Although the 341-acre Saddle Creek Greenway Tract property contains two pit lakes and scenic portions of the Saddle Creek floodplain, public and hiking opportunities were not developed due to lack of funding. In 2003, Tenoroc staff, as the first step to opening this area to public use, developed a plan to create a loop hiking trail around one of these pit lakes and connect this trail to Polk County's Saddle Creek Park and to an existing Tenoroc horseback riding/hiking trail.

The Polk Chapter of Florida Trails Association, with Sleepy Hill Middle School Technology Student Association, constructed two pedestrian bridges in February 2004, creating the access needed to complete the loop trail. In April 2004 most of this trail was blazed using inmate labor. The final leg is to be blazed in October 2004.

## Great Florida Birding Trail Hurricane Update

Michael Welch, manager of the Great Florida Birding Trail, states that there are not many spots in the state that haven't felt the impacts of the 2004 hurricane season. We have seen many pristine areas damaged by high winds and saltwater inundation. Although this year has been extreme, hurricanes are a natural occurrence and our wild lands will eventually absorb their impacts as they have adapted to do.

That said, some of your favorite birding hotspots or parks might be able to use your help!

It is going to take quite a while before our landscape even begins to resemble what we, and our birds, are used to. Do what you can to help that process along.

For more information, and to request free trail guides, visit [www.floridabirdingtrail.com](http://www.floridabirdingtrail.com).

**Street Audubon Center, a stop on the Great Florida Birding Trail, needs your help. Contact Paul Anderson, 863.965.8241, or Carrie Plair, 863.683.8094, to offer assistance. Paul handles Audubon's grounds. Carrie handles restoration of native plants.**

**Please bring tools for yard work and for cleaning Howe House. We need your help at the workday on Saturday, November 5.**

**Please bring your lunch and drinking water.**

## Snow Shoes, Part 2

Gunn Honican

In the September-October newsletter, Gunn wondered if Snow Shoes (SS), the Blue Heron that she raised from a tiny chick, "will remain wild and free yet "connected" to us or will he become totally wild?" Here is Gunn's delightful post-hurricane post-script.

When Charlie was coming, we went to stay with friends at a more solid house than our mobile home. I was very concerned about (SS), the bird that flies free but still comes around to our park. I asked the veterinarian if it would be good to put SS in my pet cage. He said to just let SS do what instinct told him to do. So when we left a few hours before Charlie was coming, he was still sitting down on our dock!! The people that stayed at the clubhouse said he had a lot of trouble when he finally decided to leave! The wind pushed him around, but somehow he found a place and hunkered down. The morning after we came home, he came in too! Same thing happened with Frances; we left, came back, and so did he. With Jeannie, he waited a day; the wind was still blowing a day or two after. He was smart and stayed where he was! He has been around almost every day, yet I always worry that he is hurt someplace, of course!

## Three Hurricanes And Federal Requirements Affect Joan Waters' Woodland Wonders Wildlife Rehabilitation

Last year, an Eaglet fell out the nest that Shirley Lux and John Duncan were monitoring. Joan Waters rescued and released the baby Eagle. This release couldn't happen now because the Federal Government requires rehabilitators to have a 100x20x16-foot flight cage for large birds to use to exercise their wings before release. Joan needs this cage in order to be able to continue to care for eagles and other birds of prey. Without such a large cage, the birds will have to be transported over an hour away, in heavy traffic, to a facility that has an adequate cage before they can be released. That is a lot of *STRESS* to the birds!

There are other needs that became clear after the hurricanes. Things we would do differently to prepare for hurricanes are: 1.) buy a large generator that could handle the pump and the well; we had no power for 5-6 days, so we had to buy bottled water for all our animals; 2) order large supplies of mice and rats in advance because after the storms and even now they are very hard to obtain; 3.) try to have a better phone system in place, perhaps a short wave radio. All our animals and cages had to be moved into our house until the storms were over and the enclosures could be checked over for damage.

The day OF Charley, we received a 1-2 day old fawn and she is progressing well. Squirrels were by far the most numerous animals brought in. In birds, we received one badly injured sandhill crane that died and then an egret and a hawk. The egret and hawk both did well and have been released. Birds know when storms are approaching and fly off during them.

We have received numerous calls regarding displaced wildlife; turtles, raccoons, fox, etc. all in places in yards where they should not be. We only hope people will use a little caution and understanding with these poor displaced wildlife and not harm them in any way.

I want to thank everyone who helped Woodland Wonders before and after the storms with your thoughts and \$ and such. If you wish to volunteer for prep and/or aftermath clean up from a storm, please call 863.967.3298. Please mail tax deductible donations to:

Visit Joan's website:  
[www.woodlandwonders.org](http://www.woodlandwonders.org)

**Joan Waters - Flight Cage  
2110 Betty Ann Drive  
Auburndale, Florida 33823**

### Steering Committee

A Steering Committee of five people guides the affairs, events, and activities of Lake Region Audubon Society. The Steering Committee will work with the elected officers and the committee chairmen. Chairmanship of the Steering Committee will rotate among these five members, who will take turns serving for 2 months at a time. The temporary chairman of the Steering Committee will prepare the agenda and preside. Three committee members will constitute a quorum.

The board will continue to meet on the second Wednesday of each month, September through May, except for December.

#### Steering Committee members:

**Bill Karnofsky, 863.324-5282, brkay@juno.com**

1439 Grand Cayman Cir, Winter Haven, FL 33884

**Mae Hartsaw, 863.533.6236, 305 E. Conant, Bartow, FL 33830**

**Chuck Geanangel, 863.326.5748, hoatzin@tampabay.rr.com**

92 Lake Otis Road, W. Haven, FL 33884

**Carrie Plair, 963.683.8094, clplair@msn.com**

**Paul Anderson, 863.965.8241, jiandr@aol.com,**

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1st Vice President, Evening Programs:

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305 E. Conant, Bartow, FL 33830

2nd Vice President, Conservation:

**Chuck Geanangel, hoatzin@tampabay.rr.com, 863.326-5748,**

92 Lake Otis Road, W. Haven, FL 33884

3rd Vice President Field Trips:

**Paul Fellers, 863.293.0486,**

1010 Avenue X, NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881

4th Vice President Membership: Vacant

Treasurer:

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1439 Grand Cayman Cir, Winter Haven, FL 33884

Recording Secretary:

**Elizabeth Purnell, 863.324.3181, Purnelle@msn.com**

1046 Medinah Dr. SE, Winter Haven, FL 33884

Corresponding Secretary: To Be Announced

Audubon Adventures/Education: To Be Announced

Bird Club:

**Marvel Loftus, 863.324.9657, MARVEL769@aol.com**

Bird ID Classes: **Paul Fellers, 863.293.0486,**

Christmas Bird Count Compiler: **Paul Fellers 863.293.0486**

Endowment: Committee:

**Bill Haddad, 863.683.6920, Photobill9@hotmail.com,**

Field Trips:

**Day Trips: Paul Fellers, 863.293.0486**

**Overnight Trips: Gil Lucas, voice mail: 863.284.4621**

Finance Committee: **Bill Karnofsky, see above**

**Earle Roberts, 863.324.7277, FlCrane97@aol.com**

Historian/Scrapbook: **Evelyn Hoog, 863.802.9211**

Labels/Newsletter:

**Lynn Powell, 863.687.3813, lpo4448888@aol.com**

Mail outs/Newsletter: **Marvel Loftus, 863.324.9657**

Membership Dinners: Vacant

Member Programs: Vacant

NatureFaire Chairman: Vacant

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Webmaster: **Rae Bourquein, see above**

Website: **www.lakeregion.net**

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**Cheryl Graffam, 863.688.0976**

**Gil and Gina Lucas, 863.644.6331**

**Fran Henry, 863.682.4623**

**Louise Lang, 863.533.8386**

**Jack Moulton, 863.324.7340**

**Earle & Katie Roberts. 863.324.7277**

Educator/Naturalist:

**Street Audubon Center, 863.324.7304**

115 Lameraux Road, Winter Haven, FL 33884

**Ridge Audubon Center, 863.638.1355**

South Scenic Highway, 200 N. Crooked Lake Dr.,

Babson Park, FL 33827

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**David Anderson, President/CEO, Audubon of Florida**

444 Brickell Avenue, Suite 850, Miami, FL 33131

305.371.6399, FAX 305.371.6398

**Bill Lowrie, Chapter Advisor, 850.224.7546**

**Charles Lee, Senior Vice President, Maitland, FL**

### Street Audubon Center Advisory Committee

Six members; 3 of Audubon of Florida, 3 of Lake Region Audubon Society

#### Audubon of Florida Members

To Be Announced

#### Lake Region Audubon Society Members

**Chuck Geanangel, 863.326-5748**

**Paul Anderson, 863.965.8241**

**Third Member To Be Announced**



November-December 2004

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
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Lakeland, FL  
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Lake Region Audubon Society  
Street Audubon Center  
115 Lameraux Road  
Winter Haven, FL 33884  
863.324.7304  
[www.lakeregion.net](http://www.lakeregion.net)

Return Service Requested

Volunteers Operate Street Audubon Center  
Hours: Monday - Saturday, 9 - 3:00.

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**2003-2004 Officers  
Steering Committee**

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<b>Mae Hartsaw</b>	<b>863.533.6236</b>	
<b>Chuck Geanangel</b>	<b>863.326.5748</b>	<b><a href="mailto:hoatzin@tampabay.rr.com">hoatzin@tampabay.rr.com</a></b>
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VP/Conservation	Chuck Geanangel	863.326.5748
VP/Field Trips	Paul Fellers	863.293.0486
VP Membership	Vacant	
Treasurer	Bill Karnofsky	863.324.5282
Corresponding Sec.	Vacant	
Recording Sec.	Liz Purnell	863.324.3181

**Street Audubon Center Advisory Committee:**  
Chuck Geanangel, Paul Anderson

**Board Members:** Janet Anderson, Ron Butts, Cheryl Graffam, Bill Haddad, Bert & Fran Henry, Louise Lang, Marvel Loftus, Gil and Gina Lucas, Jack Moulton, Lynn Powell, Earle and Katy Roberts

**Board Meetings** (open to members) 7:00 pm, second Wednesday, at Street Audubon Center, 115 Lameraux Rd. Winter Haven, 863.324.7304

**Mission Statement:** Lake Region Audubon Society, a Chapter of National and Florida Audubon Societies, is dedicated to youth education, conservation, clean air and clean water, preservation of our native flora and fauna, and the promotion of public awareness of the remaining natural beauty of our Florida and our world.

**Injured Birds and Animals, Joan Waters**  
Call **Joan Waters, 863.967.3298** anytime for bird and animal rescue.  
Leave a message and she will return your call.  
Visit Joan's website: [www.woodlandwonders.org](http://www.woodlandwonders.org).

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

For New Audubon Members Only - Chapter E 25; 7XCH

Join the National Audubon Society for the special rate of US\$20. That's \$15 off the regular membership dues. This 3-way membership includes the Lake Region Audubon newsletter and magazines of Florida and National Audubon. **Make checks payable to The National Audubon Society**, and mail with this form to:  
Rae Bourquein, 115 Lameraux Rd., Winter Haven FL 33884  
Attention: Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter E 25, 7XCH  
Audubon Memberships are good gifts.

**Address changes, New Memberships, & Other Changes:** Mail to Lake Region Audubon, 115 Lameraux Rd., Winter Haven FL 33884 , Attention: Membership.

**Bird Club Organization Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 4, 9:00 at Street Center**

Marvel Loftus

Come early to see what the Hurricanes did to the Nature Center. Bring ideas for different trips. Things will be different this year because some places are not open. Our first trip will be as it always is, Fort DeSoto. We will meet either in Mulberry at 6:45 am at the McDonalds or at the Tierra Verde duck ponds as 9:00 am. The ponds are located on the right side of CR 679 (the road to the park) just past the business section in Tierra Verde.

The Bird Club meets every Thursday until the end of March, except during the Holidays. We welcome anyone who like to watch birds or just likes to walk through a park. Our transportation is by car pools. Come and join us.

**Tuesday Evening Pizza & Film Nights**

**Begin November 2, 7 pm, at Street Audubon Center**

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays. Nature films and documentaries.

**The famous documentary, *Winged Migration*, is the feature at Street Audubon Center, Tues., November 16, 7:00; Come, enjoy pizza, bring friends.**

For movie titles, watch the sign in front of Street Nature Center or call 863.324.7304. To help with pizza and movies, call Marvel Loftus, 863.324.9657. Come; bring friends; donation for pizza and drinks.

**Guided Trail Walks At Street Audubon Center Begin Nov. 13**  
 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays, 10:00 am, Street Audubon Center.

This year, guides are really essential, even for the one trail that is only partially destroyed. To help with this program, please call Marvel Loftus, 863 324 9657.

**For All Our Many Great Volunteers,  
 A Free Thank You Luncheon**

Saturday, January 22, 2005, 12-2 pm, Luncheon, Street Audubon center, free to all LRAS volunteers. All volunteers will be contacted about making a reservation. Information: Ann Pinner, 863.956.2374, [annpin@aol.com](mailto:annpin@aol.com).



**You are Invited  
 To Audubon's Christmas Party  
 Sunday, December 5, 2:00  
 Street Audubon Center**

Our annual party is a social highlight. Please reserve Sunday afternoon, December 5, for a delightful way to see the changes to the center.

Lake Region will provide punch; everyone is asked to bring a finger food for the occasion. After sharing treats and greeting friends, we will enjoy a slide show featuring nature slides taken by our members. Bring 10 of your best slides to show.

For information or to assist, call Carrie Plair, 863.683.8094.

**Work Day November 1**

Please bring tools for yard work and for cleaning Howe House. We need your help at the workday on Saturday, November 5. Remember your lunch and drinking water. Information: Contact Paul Anderson, 863.965.8241.

**David Allen Broussard Cattfish Creek 5-Mile Nature Hike**

November 6, Saturday, 8:00. Meet at Street Audubon Center to carpool. Bring lunch to eat at the sinkhole with emerald-colored water; visit FFA facility after lunch. Paul Fellers, 863.293.0486.

**Historic Bok Tower Sanctuary 1-mile & Wakeford Road Tiger Creek Preserve 2-Mile Nature Hikes**

November 13, Saturday, 8:00. Meet at Street Audubon Center to carpool. Bring lunch or buy it at Bok Tower. Paul Fellers, 863.293.0486.

**Lake Parker 1.5-Mile Hikes**

November 27, Saturday, 8:00; meet at Lake Parker boat ramp, entrance from Lake Parker Drive. Up to 58 species may be seen here. Lunch at Tapa Tio's. Paul Fellers, 863.293.0486.

**All About Alligators In Florida by Alice Kersey,  
 Polk County Extension Services, University of Florida**

November 30, Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Winter Haven Chain of Lakes Complex. Find out all you ever wanted to know about Florida Alligators. Information: Mae Hartsaw, 863.533.6236.

**Christmas Bird Count**

December 18, Saturday. Dinner and round-up at Street Audubon Center. Contact Paul Fellers, 863.293.0486.

**Lake Wales Christmas Bird Count**

Date to be announced. Contact Paul Fellers, 863.293.0486.

**Birdathon Fundraiser, Based on Christmas Bird Count**

Details to be announced.

**Phosphate Mines Birding Trip  
 MEMBERS ONLY**

January 8, Saturday, 8:00. Meet at Publix Parking Lot in Bartow; lunch provided. Observe up to 100 species. Paul Fellers, 863.293.0486.

**Winter Haven Bird ID Classes**

January 10, 17, 24, 31, 6:30-9:00 pm, at Street Audubon Center. \$25 fee includes field trips. Please call early if you wish to attend. Paul Fellers, 863.293.0486.

**Buck and Linda Cooper Present South**

**Florida's Special Tropical and Subtropical Butterflies**

January 18, Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Lakeland Library on Lake Morton Drive. Information: Mae Hartsaw, 863.533.6236.