



EAGLE'S VIEW



Lake Region
Audubon
May/June 2006
Volume 16, Issue 4

Street Audubon Center
115 Lameraux Road
Winter Haven, FL 33884



Field Trips

Birding Highlights of 15 Recent Phosphate Mine Visits

By Paul Fellers

As a guide for Mosaic Phosphate Company, I conduct birding trips to the mines during wintertime. This season, following 3 scouting field trips, 8 Audubon Societies and 2 bird clubs visited the mines, the last visit being Feb. 16th. An additional 3 all-day trips have also been made with the most recent being April 5th.

In checklist order records of note (numbers often represent the highest number for the period) were: 1,200 American White Pelicans (1/5/06), 6 Roseate Spoonbills (1/28; recorded on every trip except one), 60 Black-bellied Whistling Ducks (1/7), 2,800 Green-winged Teal (3/3), 41 Northern Pintails (3/3), 2,200 Northern Shovelers (3/3), 26 Gadwall (1/23), 200 American Wigeon (1/14), 8 Canvasbacks (2/16), Redhead (1/14), 1,000 Ring-necked Ducks (1/1), 1,000 Lesser Scaup (1/14), 3 Bufflehead (3/3), 200 Hooded Mergansers (1/5), 2,000 Ruddy Ducks (1/5), 5 Swallow-tailed Kites (4/5; IMC Peace River Park), Bald Eagles (1/5 – 4/5; 3 nesting pairs), Short-tailed Hawk (1/21, 2/2; IMC Peace River Park; dark phase; and a light phase on 2/25), Krider's Red-tailed Hawk (1/21; Sarasota Audubon; rare), Swainson's Hawk (1/1; 1/28; 2/16; intermediate dark-phase presumably same bird; rare), Purple Gallinule (1/28; 2nd record for mines) 13 Semipalmated Plovers (1/1), 12 Black-necked Stilts (1/23), 735 American Avocets (3/11; very high number, and nearly a month later 601 American Avocets on 4/5, most birds in gorgeous breeding plumage), 9,000 Least Sandpipers (1/23), 12,000 peeps (4/5), 3 Pectoral Sandpipers (1/5), 140 Dunlin (2/8; highest number ever), 112 Stilt Sandpipers (2/2), 1,149 Long-billed Dowitchers (2/8), Great-horned Owls (3 nesting pairs), 2 Rough-winged Swallows (4/5), and Northern Parula (1/7; 1/14; 1/28). The number of species per day varied from 80-100, with duck species generally 10-14.

Hike at Sumica

By Paul Fellers

On March 4, 2006, a small but enthusiastic group of folks perused a nice portion of Sumica's 4,031 acres jointly owned by SFWMD and Polk County. Ron Butts and I had scouted the prior weekend, and had marked the trail we would use, as the old trail was almost nonexistent. Had I not hiked in the area previously, it would have been tough. At any rate, we enjoyed our 4+-mile hike in nice weather. Along the old tram trail near the beginning, we had about 20 American Robins "running" before us. At the end of the savannah, lots of Narrow-leaved Violets (*Viola lanceolata*) were growing in the wet areas. Down in the woods we noted quite a lot of trees and limbs down from the 3 hurricanes of '04 but not as bad as I thought it would be. Most of the big oaks were still standing. On one of the branches of a big Live Oak, a surprise of surprises was a Butterfly Orchid (*Encyclia tampenses*) in full bloom totally out of season. A couple of nice wintering mixed flocks of birds resulted in a very good 7 warbler species including 2 Parulas, Yellow-
see page 2

Field Trips cont.

throated, 4 Pines and 2 Black and Whites. Four woodpecker species was good as was a pair of Bald Eagles, 2 Red-shouldered Hawks, Red-tailed Hawk, an uncommon light-morph Short-tailed Hawk, 2 Eastern Bluebirds and 2 Blue-headed Vireos. But the most memorable bird of the day was a gorgeous Barred Owl that I called up. The owl was really accommodating and posed on several perches around us until finally moving on deeper into the woods. At the edge of one of the wet areas was a really big Florida Holly (*Ilex cassine*).

We hikers could use a more user-friendly trail system in this neat piece of old Polk County that used to be part of a thriving lumber and naval stores industry. The horse trails are essentially in the open savannah and could certainly also use help to make them more interesting.



Barred Owl by Ron Butts

After the hike on the way home we stopped off at the sparrow field north of Lake Wales, earlier harboring Scissor-tailed Flycatchers. Here we did real well identifying 3 Field Sparrows, 3 Grasshopper Sparrows, and 4 White-crowned Sparrows.

A Day at the Green Swamp

By Paul Fellers

For the 22 of us LRAS and a few Native Plant Society folks who spent the day of March 25, 2006 in the Green Swamp, the sky was blue, the temperature was in the high 60's, and the wildflowers were great performers. Never have I seen so many showy Sneezeweed or Bitterweed (*Helenium pinnatifidum*) flowers. Also abundant were Blue, and Yellow Butterworts (*Pinguicula caerulea* and *lutea*, respectively). In 2 spots we also found Small Butterworts (*P. pumila*) for the grand slam of butterworts for our area.

A stop along Route 33 produced some Sandhill Milkweed, (*Asclepias humistrata*) and Butterfly Weed (*A. tuberosa*), the latter not quite yet in bloom. Tread Softly (*Cnidocolus stimulosus*) and Green Eyes (*Berlandiera subacaulis*; a Florida endemic species), were common underfoot.

At our first stop on Main Grade north of Rock Ridge Road, Pine Hyacinths (*Clematis baldwinii*; one of my favorite flowers) were abundant, with perhaps two dozen of these spectacular flowering plants being found. Also here were a few of the large *Viola septemloba* purple violets, Atamasco Lilies (*Zephyranthes atamasco*), and a single shocking-pink, dainty *Stenandrium dulce*.

Starting at the Withlacoochee River, Southern Blueflag (*Iris virginica*) was in full bloom in just about every wet area thereafter. Southern Fleabane (*Erigeron quercifolius*) was abundant along many of the roadsides.

Our major hike for the day was about a 3-mile loop trail beyond the river on the west side of Main Grade, the first ¾ mile or so being along an old tram trail used in days gone by in timbering operations. Huge oaks and extremely tall Cabbage Palms dominated the riverine swamp along the raised trail. *Viola's* Wood Satyrs were often in view, this being the peak season for this sprightly small butterfly having 4 "eyes" on its hindwing.

Along the north leg of the trail after leaving the tram trail, an uncommon Bronze Green-fly Orchis (*Epidendrum magnoliae* Muhlenberg var. *magnoliae*) was found on a felled oak limb. It was a species having quite a lot of purplish color in the leaves. Until recently Green-fly Orchis was known as *Epidendrum canopseum*. Later another specimen was also found.

see page 3

Field Trips cont.

On the leg back east in mostly pine flatwoods, lots of flowers were found including rafts of Sneezeweed and Yellow Butterwort. An uncommon lone Procession Flower (*Polygala incarnata*) and Jack-in-the-Pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*) were nice finds.

Lunch was pleasant at the old Stewart Homestead under the shade of huge Mulberry and Live Oak trees. Emily Sansorne had made some delicious cinnamon muffins that she shared with the gang. Then it was up Powder Grade for a ways to a prime wildflower area found by the writer years ago. Again we were not disappointed with at least a dozen Bearded Grass Pink Orchids, (*Calopogon baratus*) located in the tall grass and low shrubs along with lots of Yellow, and Blue Butterworts, Horned Bladderwort (*Utricularia subulata*) and some Club Moss (*Lycopodium cernuum*, an ancient, plant)). Farther up Powder Grade was a staked-out lone, showy Osceola's Plume or Crow-poison (*Zigadenus densus*). On Tanic Grade was a nice patch of small *Viola floridana* and Longleaf Violets (*V. lanceolata*). Up 3-Run Grade was a great roadside area harboring another dozen or so staked-out Bearded Grasspink Orchids among other flowers. On the way out off Main Grade, we looked over several carnivorous Hooded Pitcher Plants (*Sarracenia minor*) unfortunately not in very good condition; walked in another area that normally would have had a foot or two of standing water under the cypress trees except that drought had dried things up and the irises and lengthy Floating Bladderworts (*Utricularia inflata*) around us lay flat. Around the edges of several of the areas that we were poking around in, another partial carnivore, Sundew (*Drosera brevifolia*) was abundant but were not blooming in the fairly chilly weather. This was the area in which, a week earlier, I had a personal encounter with a big Florida Cottonmouth Water Moccasin. Ron Butts took a great pic. of the occasion.

Birds were at a premium, our best being two pairs of Swallow-tailed Kites (just returned from Central and South America), and resident Red-shouldered Hawks. Linda and Buck Cooper tallied the butterflies. Some that I recall other than the many Viola's Wood Satyr were Zebra, Palamedes and Spicebush Swallowtails, and Zebra Heliconian.

Then it was the end of another great day in the Green Swamp with its blackwater river, mysterious swamps, pinewood flatlands, and myriad wildflowers and shrubs numbering nearly a hundred species that we identified.

Fort DeSoto Spring Bird Migration

By Paul Fellers

The weather was great for the 22 of us over on the west coast April 15, 06. I logged a respectable 87 species for the group, even though my number was slightly fewer. Birds of note were 4 young Pied-billed Grebes with adults at the Tierra Verde pond, 2 Magnificent Frigatebirds, 2 Tri-colored Herons with gorgeous blue around the eyes, rare white-morph Reddish Egret with its bicolored bill at the North Beach, 8 nesting pairs of Yellow-crowned Night Herons in the East Beach woods, 2 Roseate Spoonbills, 100 Redhead Ducks at the Tierra Verde pond, 4 Wilson's Plovers, 2 American Oystercatchers at the Howard-Frankland Bridge, 40 Marbled Godwits at the North Beach, 10 Black-hooded Parakeets, Common Nighthawk in a tree in the East Beach Woods parking lot, late Belted Kingfisher, unusual for there Pileated Woodpecker, rare Scissor-tailed Flycatcher on the wires along the road to North Beach, migrant Barn Swallow, gorgeous male Yellow Warbler with a male Black-throated Blue Warbler in the Ear tree, Worm-eating Warbler, 2 Kentucky Warblers (neither of which I saw), 5 Hooded Warblers, Summer Tanager, Blue Grosbeak at the water fountain and 2 Indigo Buntings. In the Mulberry Tree area, a nice bonus for the day

see page 4



Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
by Herman

Field Trips cont.

was several Mangrove Skipper butterflies, with some iridescent cobalt blue and iridescent turquoise bands. Dinner at Ybor City's Spaghetti Warehouse was a great way to end another memorable day at Fort DeSoto during spring migration.

North Florida Winter Birding Trip

By Paul Fellers

Before Christmas in a conversation with Dr. David Brooke, I brought up the idea of making a mid-winter birding trip to North Florida, something I hadn't done in some time. So when a time slot opened up, Doc and I made a nice little 3-day, 1,000 mile trip, Feb. 10-12, 2006, covering all of the major locations on my tentative agenda.

Early morning on the first day we experienced a once-in-a-lifetime sight, an estimated 2,500 Greater Sandhill Cranes standing about in 4 major groups perhaps only a 100 yards off the Florida Turnpike about 1 mile south of the Okahumka Service Plaza. They were like a jungle of sticks in the field. We had come upon a major gathering area for these magnificent birds before their great migration flight to the north 1,000 miles. Only once before had I witnessed such a sight, that with the late John Edscorn many years earlier at Paynes Prairie just south of Gainesville, FL where we witnessed a gathering of an estimated 1,500 cranes in February. By the way, on our return on the 12th, the birds had flown.

Then it was on to St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge where we did real well. The best birds in checklist order were 15 Canvasbacks, Greater Scaup, 10 Common Goldeneyes, 50 Buffleheads (7 males), 492 Willets, 39 Stilt Sandpipers, 49 Short-billed Dowitchers, 3 Brown-headed Nuthatches, and 3 Carolina Chickadees. Tall Timbers Research Station north of Tallahassee was mostly a bust, but we did manage to get 5 woodpecker species including 3 Red-headed. A pair of Purple Martins was early; some other birds were 5 Ruby-crowned Kinglets, 2 Carolina Chickadees, 5 Eastern Bluebirds, Hermit Thrush, and a very cooperative Orange-crowned Warbler feeding low at only 10' distance. Total species for the day was a respectable 90.

Early morning weather on the 11th was on the rainy side, so we spent time at Three Rivers State Park, Lake Seminole and vicinity. We were able to observe several duck species including 9 Canvasbacks. A small hike produced a couple more Orange-crowned Warblers, one of which was another close study, Hermit Thrush and a pair of Swamp Sparrows. On another hike at a campground, we ran into a nice mixed flock of birds which included 5 Chipping Sparrows, female Black and White Warbler, several Pine Warblers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and Eastern Bluebirds.

Then it was on to Florida Caverns S.P. The rain had stopped and all was well. Hiking was very pleasant along the flower-lined trails. Wake Robin (*Trillium maculatum*) were seemingly everywhere, along with some Rue Anemone (*Thalictrum thalictroides*), 2 species of violet, and others. Finally on one of the back trails along the calcareous bluffs we noted the kip kipping of a Winter Wren. It took a while but we tracked the bird down, and before we were done, we had seen an amazing 2 pairs of these tiny, dark, secretive, uncommon birds. We felt great. It had been years since my last Florida Winter Wren, and it was a lifer for Doc. A flock of about 30 American Goldfinches was a nice surprise.

We still had time for Torreya State Park, next on my list. The vista overlooking the Apalachicola River was as spectacular as ever. I showed the old Confederate gun emplacements to Doc; then we headed back to the car. Happily, 3 White-throated Sparrows popped out of the underbrush onto the lawn in front of us, another lifer for Doc.

see page 5

Field Trips cont.

We had heard that a Tropical Kingbird had been seen in Apalachicola, so down we went for our motel there for the night, but not before we were able to spend about a half hour looking before sunset. It had been another fine day with 67 species recorded.

Early next morning we tried again for the bird but with no luck. Then it was the long road back to Polk County. Coastal birding was great except at St. George Island State Park that was a wash, literally, as the hurricanes had done in the road. At Alligator Point and other locations, we racked up 7 Common Loons, 15 Horned Grebes, 136 Canvasbacks, a gorgeous male Common Goldeneye only about 200' away at Bald Point State Park, 200 Lesser Scaup, a fantastic 118 Bufflehead, and 7 American Oystercatchers. A visit to Wakulla Springs netted 103 American Wigeon, but on a quick trip to St. Marks Lighthouse, no new birds of note were found. The tally for our last day was 62 species.

All in all it was a fine trip, even taking into consideration Doc's weird British sense of humor. I would advise everyone to once in a while check out North Florida in the winter.

Volunteers Needed

Hours are 9 am to noon or noon to 3 pm.
Duties are to be present at the Street Audubon Center, open the center and close it.
Call Ann Pinner at 956-2374

Audubon Saddle Creek Property

Audubon has nearly 500 acres of property to the northeast of Eaton Park, east of Lakeland. It has a nice series of old phosphate pits on it. We are now clearing the top of the berms around the pits to open them for trails. Workdays are Wednesday at 9 am. We work for 3 to 4 hours. If you can cut or clean brazilian pepper, come on out. Contact Herman Moulden at hmoul@verizon.net for details.

Lake Region Web Site

The printed version of the *Eagle's View* is in black and white. For a full color version, check it out on the Lake Region web site at www.lakeregion.net. The photographs are much nicer in full color.

You will also find the latest schedules and other information. Rae Bourquein is the webmaster and she does a terrific job keeping it current.

Help! Help!! Help!!

Come and join our group of volunteers at the Nature Center. What do you have to do? Nothing, just open up or lock up and **BE THERE!!** Due to the three hurricanes and other situations, we are shorthanded. If you would like to volunteer for a morning: 9:00am to noon; OR an afternoon: noon to 3:00 pm; please call **Ann Pinner, phone 956-2374**. Helping out once a month would be **GREAT!!** The Nature Center is a wonderful place to bring a lunch, friends or grandchildren; read a book or just enjoy the peace and quiet.



Brooke Pottery
223 North Kentucky Avenue
Lakeland, Florida 33801
phone: 863-688-6844
www.brookepottery.com

Estate Antique  Custom Design
Diamonds Gold Colored Gems
Tahitian, Akoya, and South Sea Pearls
Classic & Vintage Rolex Timepieces

ANDY THORNAL COMPANY
Winter Haven - Down Town Under the Water Tower
US HWY 17 863.299.9999 www.andythornal.com

Audubon Adventures

Audubon Adventures. Do you know what that is? Have you heard of it before? If you are a member of Lake Region Audubon Society, you certainly have heard of it. Audubon Adventures is a program developed by the National Audubon Society to bring awareness and appreciation for birds, animals, and the great outdoors to children across the country.

Audubon Adventures meets the educational standards for Science and for Language Arts. It is composed of four issues of a tabloid type newspaper. There are 32 copies. They are designed to be used over the course of a school year. Remember, most students are from cities and have limited exposure to wildlife. It is our desire to provide Audubon Adventures to every classroom in Polk County. To that end, we send out a fundraising request once a year to all our members. Each kit costs \$120 to produce. National Audubon funds \$75 for each kit we order. We have to pay \$45 for each kit we provide to Polk County Schools.

This past year 54 elementary schools requested and received Audubon Adventures. Some schools received more than one classroom kit. One private school in Lakeland actually sends us a contribution for three kits. In effect, they like it so much they are actually buying the kits for themselves.

There is no program in which we are involved, that has such a fantastic opportunity to reach the next generation and prepare them for a life-long love of our natural surroundings. Can you imagine the impact we could have, here in Polk County, if we could provide a kit for every elementary classroom?

Unfortunately, this past year we received the smallest amount of contributions for Audubon Adventures in many years. We had ten FIRST TIME CONTRIBUTORS, thirty CONTINUING CONTRIBUTORS, and unfortunately, we have ninety members who have contributed in the past who did not make a contribution this year. If you are among those ninety members, or if you are one of our members who has never contributed, we would ask you to reconsider a donation for Audubon Adventures. \$45 pays for a complete classroom kit. We have many members who contribute to fund part of a kit, and we have others who contribute to fund multiple kits. We are most appreciative of any size donation.

Donations can be sent to Lake Region Audubon Society, c/o Bill Karnofsky, Treasurer, 1439 Grand Cayman Cir., Winter Haven, FL 33884.

A special thanks to our

FIRST TIME CONTRIBUTORS:

Carol Cassels, Marlys Chutich, N.A. Duncan, Ralph Mervine, Lana Moors, Charles Ray, Julia Reynolds, Tom & Shirley Rowbottom, Ruesch Environmental Services, Donald Utzman

...and more special thanks to our

CONTINUING CONTRIBUTORS:

VIRGINIA ADLER, PAUL & JANET ANDERSON, MARION BATES, Rae Bourquein, Brooke Pottery, Janet F Carrier, James & Marilyn Cummings, ELIZABETH W DAVIS, WILLIAM EARP, EDWARD E. ETHEREDGE, PAUL FELLERS, CHUCK GEANANGEL, MAE E HARTSAW, BILL & ROSE KARNOFSKY, MAREIDA R. KINGSBERY, LAKELAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, SHIRLEY LUX, EWELL MASON, Joseph Misiaszek, EDWIN MOORE, BRUCE L. PARKER, LYNN POWELL, ERNEST & ELIZABETH PURNELL, RONNIE'S CARPETS, INC, TOM & JANET SEITZ, JOHN & SANDRA SLOAN, Richard & Therisa Suetterlin, L.W. TIMMER, Patricia Wiedenman, FREDDIE WRIGHT

Bill Karnofsky

REMEMBER THAT THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH IS A WORK DAY AT THE STREET AUDUBON CENTER

Bird Club

We had a wonderful year. We ended up with 175 Species. We took 18 trips. Most of them were on Thursday from November to April. Went to both coasts and as far north as Emerald Marsh, Leesburg, and as far south as Babcock/Webb WMA, Punta Gorda. The only day that it really rained was when we went to the Green Swamp in December, otherwise we had great weather. Maybe a little bit too windy or on the cool side but most of the time it was fine. The weather doesn't stop us. We saw all the egrets and herons, both Whistling Ducks, Snail Kites, Swallow-tailed Kites, King Rail, Clapper Rail, Sora, the Black-bellied Plover, Semipalmated Plover, Snowy Plover, Wilson Plover and the Piping Plover. We saw both dowitchers, the Upland Sandpiper, Spotted Sandpiper and the Solitary Sandpiper. The Burrowing Owl was out for us to see as so was the Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Brown-headed Nuthatch and a beautiful singing Bachman's Sparrow. We heard the wheep of the Great-crested Flycatcher and found him high in the trees. This is just a sample of what can be seen on our trips to the forests, marshes, and beaches. If this sounds fun to you, mark your calendar for Thursday, November 2, 2006 and come to our organization meeting at the Street Audubon Center at 9:00 AM. If you have any questions, please contact me. My e-mail address is Marvel.Loftus@gmail.com . My home phone number is 863 324 9657 but you always get me on my cell phone 863 289 8188.

See you in the fall, Marvel Loftus

Open House

Once again we are planning to have our Open House this fall on Sunday, November 12, 2006, 2 - 4 PM, This is a fund raiser for the nature center. A dinner will be served and all the chairmen will have displays about their programs. We need everyone to help us make this a success. If you are interested in helping us to promote this event, parking, set up, decorations, serve the meal, bake some bars or cookies or clean up, Please contact me by e-mail, Marvel.Loftus@gmail.com or phone me at 863 324 9657 or on my cell phone, 863 289 8188, It would be nice to hear from you this spring so committees can be formed.

Marvel Loftus



Nature Faire Activity



Eagle from the Stump

KISSIMMEE RESTORATION PROGRESS

Land acquisition for the world's largest river restoration was completed in April. Now the Corps will proceed with the final phases of backfilling C-38 (the ditch); completion is estimated to be in 2010. These final phases of restoration are primarily in Highlands County. Remember: in the 1990s the entire river was not slated for restoration; basically too much development in the northern and southern areas of the river and its watershed made restoration there financially and politically impossible.

When the partial restoration is completed, 43 of the original 103 mile meandering river will wind through 40 square miles of floodplain. Wildlife, which was decimated by channelization in the 1960s, has already increased dramatically with the completion of the first phase. These wetlands are home to 320 fish and wildlife species, including Snail Kites, Wood Storks, Bald Eagles, and trophy bass; the success of restoration will be judged in large measure on how well wildlife, especially the premier species, rebound.

Historically the wide floodplain of the Kissimmee River was considered extraordinary in North America because it remained inundated throughout the year providing bountiful habitat for wading birds, winter habitat for migratory waterfowl, and a nationally recognized sport fishery. Then came a series of devastating hurricanes, with resultant flooding, The 1950s were prime years for ditch, dike and drain solutions to water problems and at the request of some interests in Florida, Congress directed the Corps of Engineers to turn the river into C-38, a 56 mile drainage ditch. This would drain 30,000 acres of wetlands - encouraging development and more extensive agriculture.

Before the canal was finished in 1971 the birds and sport fish largely disappeared and the water entering Lake Okeechobee was foul. In the 1970s, conservationists led a swelling tide of protest to correct this tragic mistake — their commitment put the Kissimmee on the national environmental agenda. There were many dedicated scientists, engineers, and paid conservation staff who worked to bring about this restoration, but we Floridians are especially indebted to our citizen activists who made this issue a major part of their lives for decades. Foremost among these was Richard L. Coleman who was the Sierra Club's Kissimmee River Issue Chair for thirty years. Working with Lake Region/Florida Audubon and the Florida Lake Management Society he effectively and enthusiastically generated wide-spread support for this very crucial and expensive public works project. This sportsman was a scientist by training and, therefore, well qualified to generate data and review the studies. He traveled the state to help the public, candidates for public office and office holders understand what had been lost and what could be regained. His special talent was in connecting people from all interest groups to work for the common good.

Now it's up to a new team of activists - conservationists and sportsmen - to cooperate for the good of the river. Concerned knowledgeable people are needed to monitor the physical river system and report on approaches that work and those that don't and on building, fencing, and drainage that isn't permitted. Conservationists are needed to analyze proposals for development which might cause over drainage and an influx of nutrients. It will be our pleasure to enjoy the restored river but our responsibility to ensure the benefits of restoration are maximized.Frances H. Coleman (Submitted by Chuck Geanangel)

Circle B Bar Reserve - Night Tour

On May 12th fourteen persons participated in a night tour at Circle B Bar. Roy Morris set up his insect collection apparatus and informed the group on the various insects collected. We started on the lakeside and proceeded to the marsh, the sandhill and the oaks. As the sun set, the character of the area changed and it was interesting to observe. Watch for the next night tour.

Herman Moulden

DO YOU CARE ABOUT BIRDS?

Did you know there is an organization in Florida devoted to the study, conservation and appreciation of Florida's birds? Its name is Florida Ornithological Society (FOS) and it wants you to be a member. We have been FOS members for many years and want others who may not be aware of the organization to consider joining.

It was established in Lakeland in October 1972 because professional ornithologists and serious birders decided it was time to promote field ornithology and facilitate contact between those persons interested in birds. The first field trips, led by John Edscorn and Paul Fellers, went to Saddle Creek Park and Panther Point.

FOS holds a spring and fall meeting each year at different Florida locations. This past April, Tallahassee was the host and in October 2006, Titusville is the host. It is a wonderful chance to find out what is going on in professional ornithology and to meet others interested in birds. There are field trips to birding hotspots, scientific paper sessions, bird identification quizzes and technical workshops. There are many opportunities to interact with other 'bird' people. We have made lifelong friends among not only professional ornithologists but also non-professionals passionate about birds.

FOS also publishes *Florida Field Naturalist*, a peer-reviewed quarterly journal featuring research papers on birds and other fauna, book reviews and field reports of rare and unusual bird sightings in Florida. It also publishes a newsletter. On occasion, it puts out Special Publications. It also provides research and education support with annual awards. It has a Records Committee that reviews and evaluates documentation of rare birds. It also maintains the official Florida repository of written documentation, photographs, specimens and other materials pertaining to Florida birds at the Museum of Natural History in Gainesville.

There are different levels of membership ranging from \$15 for a student, \$20 for an individual, \$25 for a family to \$40 at the top end. If you have web access go to www.fosbirds.org for an application. If you do not have web access send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Buck & Linda Cooper, 558 Sunshine Blvd, Haines City, FL 33844 and we will send you an application. You do not have to be a 'serious' birder or even a 'good' birder. You just need to care about birds.

Linda Cooper

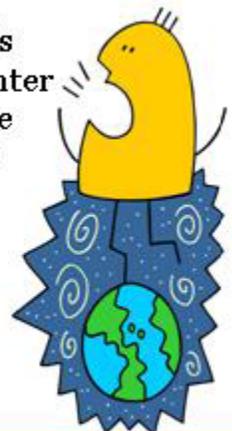
Fall Warbler Migration Walks

The 2006 Fall Warbler Migration Walks at Saddle Creek, will begin Saturday August 19th, at 8 a.m., and continue through October 28th. The trail head is located just beyond the Polk County maintenance buildings and firing range at Saddle Creek Park. The walks typically last about four hours, but will vary depending on the number and variety of birds present. We will be looking for warblers, and a variety of song birds that are migrating south. Please bring binoculars, insect repellent, beverage, and wear comfortable shoes.

If there are any questions, call Bob Snow at (863) 644-4868 or e-mail: blsnow11@verizon.net

Give Florida's Birds a Voice!

Audubon of Florida's online Advocacy Center keeps you up-to-date on issues facing our environment! Sign up for free monthly e-newsletters and learn how you can help birds with the click of a mouse!



<http://ga1.org/natureadvocate/home.html>

FREE HOUSING

The Lake Region Audubon Society (LRAS) is seeking a Resident Volunteer to occupy the cottage at the Street Audubon Center at 115 Lameraux Road, Winter Haven. We would most prefer a married couple, without children or pets. We would also consider a single person. Since the Street Audubon Center has a main house and a cottage, and 43 acres with extensive trails, we would prefer a person or persons who enjoy yard work and is capable of making minor repairs around a home. In exchange for free housing, electricity, heating and air conditioning, and water we would require the person or persons to provide about ten hours per week of volunteer labor. Mowing the lawn and opening and closing the entrance gate should be considered priorities.

For information, or to apply, E-mail, write or call Paul Anderson, 907 Kristina Court, Auburndale, FL 33823-9605

E-mail: jiandr@aol.com

Telephone: 863-965-8241

Applications should include a resume, if available. If not, please give:

1. Name
2. Address (how long in Florida)
3. Education (where and when)
4. Occupation (if retired, give previous occupation)
5. Work history (places and dates)
6. Veteran?
7. Interests and hobbies
8. Clubs and organizations (Audubon, Sierra, Master Gardeners, etc.)
9. Any felony convictions.

Native Plant Sale

The April Native Plant Sale was very successful, one of the best ever held. We thank Carrie Plair for her work in organizing the event and all the volunteers who assisted. Special thanks to Janet Anderson for the outstanding advertising. We had the largest crowd ever to attend the sale. To those who grew plants at home, also a special thanks. This year the Flea Spree Sale was held at the same time and it was also a good success.

It is time now to start growing plants and collecting seed for the fall Native Plant Sale. Please remember, **Native Plants** only.

Many thanks to the following volunteers:

Janet Anderson, Paul Anderson, Fay McCoy, Gary McCoy, Paul Fellers, Betty Butcher, Linda Cooper, Buck Cooper, Molly Rafats, Lois Smith, Herman Moulden, Ron Butts, Lorraine Schnickels, Barbara Loren, Jessie Swan, Charlie Webster, Shirley Booker, Carrie Plair, Tally Plair, Ann Pinner, Marvel Loftus, Tom Zimmers, Gunn Honican, Alice Halinan, Mae Hartsaw, Jewel Mason, Susie Brantley, Louise Lang, Bill Bissett, Anne Yasalonis, Teri Kawalski, Bob Snow. If any name has been omitted please accept our apology.



2005 - 2006 OFFICERS

Steering Committee:

Bill Karnofsky 863.324.5282 brkay@juno.com

Mae Hartsaw 863.533.6236

Chuck Geanangel 863.326.5748

hoatzin@tampabay.rr.com

Carrie Plair 963.683.8094 clplair@msn.com

Paul Anderson 863.965.8241 jiandr@aol.com,

VP/Programs: Mae Hartsaw 863.533.6236

VP/Conservation: Chuck Geanangel 863.326.5748

VP/Field Trips: Paul Fellers 863.293.0486

VP Membership: Gary McCoy 863.853.2643

VP Newsletter: Herman Moulden

hmoul@verizon.net

Treasurer: Bill Karnofsky 863.324.5282

Corresponding Sec: Gina Lucas

Recording Sec: Liz Purnell 863.324.3181

Street Audubon Center Advisory Committee:

Chuck Geanangel, Bill Karnofsky and Paul Anderson

Board Members: Charles Geanangel, Mae Hartsaw, William Karnofsky, Carrie Plaie, Paul Anderson, Paul Fellers, Elizabeth Purnell, Janet Anderson, Louise Lang, Marvel Loftus, Gil and Gina Lucas, Ron Butts, Gary McCoy, Herman Moulden, Bob Snow, and Ann Pinner

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.



Sherman Fox Squirrel at Circle B
by Herman

Attention Snowbirds

Our data manager, Lynn Powell, needs your summer address and the dates that you will be there. If she has this info you will get any mailouts this summer. Contact Lynn at 863-687-3813 or lwpowell@earthlink.net.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

For New Audubon Members Only - Chapter E25:7XCH

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:

Attention Membership

Lake Region Audubon Society

115 Lameraux Road

Winter Haven, FL 33884



Lake Region

Audubon

Chapter E 25, 7XCH

Audubon Memberships are good gifts.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Lake Region Audubon Society
Street Audubon Center
115 Lameraux Road
Winter Haven, FL 33884
863.324.7304
www.lakeregion.net

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Lakeland, FL
Permit No. 119

Street Audubon Center
Is Staffed By Volunteers
Monday - Saturday, 9 - 3:00.

“Eagle’s View” Newsletter,
Volume 16, Issue 4
May - June 2006
Published five times yearly by
Lake Region Audubon Society,
115 Lameraux Rd.,
Winter Haven, FL 33884.

Printed with soy ink on recycled paper

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.



Feature Photo



Norm Brewer captured these Wood Duck at the South Lake Howard Nature Park in early April.

Submit your photo for the Feature Photo. Send to hmoul@verizon.net