



Street Audubon Center
115 Lameraux Road
Winter Haven, FL 33884



Howe House

Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park Due To Be Closed

Linda F. and Byrum W. Cooper

One of the state parks where Lake Region Audubon supports our annual 4th of July NABA Butterfly counts is scheduled to be closed due to cuts in the state budget. We have been involved with this property before it became a state park and have done butterfly counts here since 1996. Since it achieved state park status in 1998, we have done three years of monthly butterfly surveys. The survey list stands at 85 species. In our opinion it is the best park in the state for butterflies especially for some of our rarely seen skippers. We are asking for your support with letters, phone calls and emails to Governor Crist and others listed below. For information on KPPSP go to the following internet sites:

<http://www.lakeregion.net/pdf/KPPSP%20generic%202008.pdf> and

<http://www.lakeregion.net/pdf/KPPSP%20%20native%20plants%202008.pdf>



Points to consider: KPPSP protects the largest remaining tract of Florida Dry Prairie, an ecosystem limited to central Florida. The dry prairie is of exceptional natural quality. There are 14 distinct natural communities. These communities cannot be maintained without prescribed burns. It contains portions of the original domains of the state and conserves these natural values. Too much money and effort have gone into restoration to allow KPPSP to be closed. There are 13 designated species of plants, listed either by FDACS (Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services), USFWS (U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service), and FNAI (Florida Natural Areas Inventory) as Threatened, Endangered, Critically Imperiled and Imperiled in Florida. There are 9 species of birds listed as Endangered or Threatened including Florida Grasshopper Sparrow that breeds here. There are 4 species of butterflies listed by FNAI as Critically Imperiled or Imperiled in Florida.

For those without internet service you can phone Governor Crist at (850)488-7146 or write him at Office of Governor Charlie Crist, State of Florida, The Capitol, 400 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001. Mike Bullock, Director of Florida State Parks and Bob Ballard, Deputy Director of Florida State Parks can be reached at 3900 Commonwealth Blvd, Tallahassee, FL 32399, Phone (850) 245-2118. You can reach Senator Paula Dockery at P. O. Drawer 2395, Lakeland, FL 33806-2395 or phone (863)413-2900 and Senator J. D. Alexander at 151 First Street South, Suite B, Winter Haven, FL 33880 or phone (863)298-7677. Unless government officials know people love and value this park we will lose one of the most diverse parks in Florida. If it is closed and maintained with only a caretaker then all the money and efforts in restoration will be for nothing.

CHRISTMAS PARTY
SUNDAY, DEC. 7, 2008 2:00 pm

AT THE STREET AUDUBON CENTER

Come and bring in the Holidays with our fellow members and friends. Everyone is welcomed!! The only cost to you will be the "Finger Food" to pass. The drinks will be furnished. The "Sassy Singers" are back with us again. They put on such a wonderful program that there were several request for their repeat performance. The music and fellowship will certainly help you get into the Holiday Spirit.

Brazil

Chuck Geanangel

Flying in to Sao Palo, Brazil, I reviewed what little I know about the country that birding friend Pete Timmer and I were about to enter. It is a very large country situated in the center of the South American continent. Portuguese speaking Brazil is the fifth largest country in the world both in population and area. The Amazon River, arguably the largest river in the world drains most of the country. The two major cities lying on the southeast coast are Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. The number of species of birds living there is around 1700.



Pedra do Bau rock and me in Sao Paulo, Brazil

Rick Simpson our guide (rick@rick-simpson.com) picked us up from the airport and the adventure began immediately. We were headed to our home for the next week, Ubatuba, a beautiful city on the Atlantic coast several hours northeast of Sao Paulo. However, our first stop was the Biritibe Mirim marsh to see a bird so new to science that it did not yet have a name. Rick called it the "marsh" Antwren. A quick sighting there and taking advantage of good weather, we spent several hours hiking the trails in the vicinity. Our luck held and we located several good birds including a gorgeous Crescent-chested Puffbird. Relaxing after our initial baptism of Brazilian birds, we drove for an hour or so back through the mountains to our guest house in Ubatuba. Early next morning after a Brazilian breakfast of coffee, hot chocolate, fruit, juice, rolls, ham and cheese we were off to bird one of the local birding hotspots. Rick picked us up and we drove to Folha Seca to start the day. You will notice that all of the place names seem straight out of Tolkien's Fellowship of the Rings. Typically, the trails

we explored were about a kilometer long running through undisturbed Atlantic Coastal Rainforest. People have lived in this region for hundreds of years so the best birding spots are separated by miles of second growth forest. You would never, never, find these places on your own. The process of finding birds in the jungle is straightforward. With Rick in the lead we walk slowly down the track until he hears one of our target birds. A target bird is any that we have not yet seen or ticked. Patiently using a taped recording, we try to call the bird in to where we can see it. This takes anywhere from 5 to 40 minutes. Jungle birds are notoriously hard to see. Then it's off to find the next bird. Some species are easier to spot than others so a birder can expect to see several dozen in the course of a morning. Without a good guide, professional tape recordings, and a green laser pointer you would see very little.

After the hike we had lunch on Jonas, a local bird lover's veranda nearby. His porch is lined with hummingbird feeders and in the nearby bushes he serves up fresh bananas for the local tanagers. His bird restaurant is open every day. It is a jaw-dropping experience. At any moment there are 80 hummers of 9 species buzzing around and half that number of colorful tanagers visible from my seat on the veranda. When a bottle of sugar water gets low the little hummers will fly right into his house to inform Jonas he needs to refill an empty feeder. Needless to say this is a major attraction. His bird feeding is a labor of love; he will accept sugar but will not take money to support his hobby.



Green Honeycreeper

The next day we were off to an old cocoa plantation called Capricornie. It was much more open there and the bird life was very different. We found many new birds but the rare Buff-throated Purpletuff stole the show. The afternoon was spent looking about the city and admiring the spectacular beach area. We were told that this is one of the best surfing spots on the coast. During Carnival the city is packed but the rest of the year it is just a sleepy village. An early up and a two hour drive down the coast toward Rio do Janeiro took us to Pereque for some special birds of the foothills. Our main target bird, the Black-hooded Antwren was easy but we spent an hour dragging out a Star-throated Antwren and a Squamate Antbird. Along the way the butterflies were magnificent.

By then, having discovered many of the local birds, we were off on a road trip the next day to the high mountain ranges north of Ubatuba. We drove up the many switchbacks and at around 4,000 feet passed on to the broad valley beyond. About 40 miles from the coast we turned onto a modern 4 lane divided highway that connected Sao Paulo with Rio do Janeiro. A century ago this region would all have been rainforest but now it is farm and ranch land. All that is left of the original forest are the termite mounds. Off to our west lies our next destination, mountains that crest at over 9,000 feet. In an hour we were bouncing along the



Green-headed Tanager

foggy Aglhas Negras road high above the valley floor. This was nothing like the Brazil I had expected. My altimeter read over 8,000 feet when we finally nailed down the Itatiaia Spinetail a high altitude specialty. Weather conditions forced us to find shelter at a local guesthouse amid some wonderful alpine like mountain splendor. The next day we drove to the very European looking town of Campo do Jordao where we would explore a National Park called Horto Florestal. This is the home of the strange looking Araucaria tree. In a very small area dozens of new birds kept coming at us from all directions. The highlight was several rare Vinaceous Parrots filling our

telescope eyepiece. At the hotel that evening we were told that the morning temperature was several degrees below zero Celsius, about 28 degrees Fahrenheit. Brrr. If it wasn't for the under blanket heater I would have frozen solid. The final day we birded the back roads to a point where we could see the Pedra do Bau rock one of the prettiest spots in all of Brazil. From there Rick hurried us on to the airport to catch the plane to Cuiaba for the next leg of our Brazil odyssey. We tallied over 200 trip birds with 63 lifers for me, not bad for a first week in Brazil. All photographs by Chuck Geanangel.



Pedra do Bau rock

Part 2 will be published in the next issue.



Mae Hartsaw's 92nd birthday at the Audubon Bird's of Prey Center

Photos provided by Mic Gunderson

The Polk County, Florida "North American Migration Count" (NAMC)

Paul Fellers

LRAS once again participated in the fall NAMC on Sept. 20-21st 2008. We had 22 counters: Larry Albright, Benny Bindschadler, David and Gloria Brooke, Betty Butcher, Ron Butts, Linda and Buck Cooper, Jim DuBois, Donna Fellers, Paul Fellers (compiler), Chuck Geanangel, Liz Lane, Joe Misiaszek, Herman Moulden, Tom Palmer, Mali Rafats, Lois Smith, Bob Snow, Pete Timmer, Les Twining, and Don and Linda VanDeman. It was a great effort producing 116 species and 8,719 individuals. The counters in 11 parties walked 18.5 miles in 31.5 hours, and drove 500 miles in 37.5 hours.

Records of note in checklist order were 8 Brown Pelicans (Lake John area), Yellow-crowned Night Heron (S. Polk County), Roseate Spoonbill (2 parties), 130 Wood Storks (good number for an endangered species), 24 Black-bellied Whistling Ducks (2 parties), 44 Blue-winged Teal (Crews Rd.), 2 Ring-necked Ducks (a Lakeland lake), Northern Harrier (very early, N. of Lake Alfred), 4 Cooper's Hawks, 19 Wild Turkeys (2 parties), 23 Northern Bobwhites (good number for a scarce species), 10 Greater and 18 Lesser Yellowlegs (good numbers for these species considering that the phosphate mines were unavailable for us to survey), Solitary Sandpiper (Circle Bar-B Preserve, 9 Wilson's Snipe (early; at pond next to Hampton Inn off Rte. 27), Gull-billed Tern (S. Polk County), 3 Sandwich Terns (S. Polk County), 2 Yellow-billed Cuckoos (2 parties), 6 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds (3 at each of 2 Lakeland feeders), 8 Red-headed Woodpeckers (very high number by 3 parties), Acadian Flycatcher ((Saddle Creek Park (SCP)), 5 Florida Scrub Jays ((Lake Kissimmee St. Park (LKSP)), 13 Carolina Chickadees (Green Swamp), 8 Brown-headed Nuthatches (Green Swamp), House Wren (very early at Circle Bar-B), 59 Eastern Bluebirds (43 of those in Green Swamp), Veery (SCP), Yellow-throated Vireo (Gator Creek), 7 Yellow Warblers (3 parties), Magnolia Warbler (SCP), Black-throated Blue Warbler (SCP), 7 Palm Warblers (early), 5 Worm-eating Warblers (3 parties), 25 Ovenbirds (high number), Summer Tanager (LKSP), and 2 Blue Grosbeaks (rare record; Green Swamp).

Many thanks are due to all of the folks who gave of their time and expertise to get our county represented in the North American Migration Count.

A Local Birding Migration Phenomenon

Paul Fellers

At Saddle Creek Park on Oct. 18th, 2008, Bob Snow led a group of birders as usual on the 2-mile round trip nature trail looking for migrants primarily. The group observed an excellent array of birds, especially migrants. There was a moderate breeze out of the north. Major migrants seen that morning according to Bob were: 8 Tennessee Warblers, 4 Parulas, Magnolia, Black-throated Blue (female), 2 Blackburnians, Yellow-throated, Pine, Prairie, 3 Palms, Bay-breasted, 9 Black-and-whites, 12 Am. Redstarts (3 male), Prothonotary, Nashville, 12 Ovenbirds, Northern Waterthrush, 3 Common Yellowthroats, 2 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, and Baltimore Oriole.

At about 1:30 pm that day when I was able to go birding, I gave Bob a call to get the results of the morning venture. After hearing of the good birds, especially the rare Nashville, I decided to walk the trail that afternoon with our wonderful dogs, Onyx and Lady. By the time I was a quarter of the way along the trail I realized that something was very amiss—practically no birds at all had been sighted. By the time I had walked the whole trail round trip, I had observed only the following birds: Black-throated Blue (male), Bay-breasted, 4 Black-and-white, 2 Am. Redstarts, 4 Ovenbirds, Northern Waterthrush, and 17 Indigo Buntings. In the morning there had been 65 migrants not including Indigo Buntings whose number from Bob I did not get. But in the afternoon there were only 13 migrants (not counting the buntings). This was at least 53 fewer birds in the afternoon (not 52, since the Black-throated Blue wasn't the same individual) representing an almost 82 percent decrease in birds. I had suspected for many years that migrants sometimes, when the winds and weather are favorable, continue their migration during the daytime instead of after dark as normally would be the case. The above is a clear example of this unusual migration phenomenon, unfortunately for this birder.

Photography Class for Adults

At Street Audubon Center, 115 Lamerax Rd, Winter Haven, on Saturday, Jan 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th

Cost: \$50 for 4 classes — \$25 deposit due at registration

Tony Catalano, a professional photographer, will present a series of classes for adults to learn the secrets of taking high quality pictures. There will be a minimum of 5 people and maximum of 10 people so register early. Contact: Tony Catalano at 863-294-3556 or e-mail pegtony515@msn.com to register or for more details.

Sponsored by Lake Region Audubon Society

AUDUBON ADVENTURES FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN UPDATE

BILL KARNOFSKY, TREASURER

We are still in the fund raising campaign to finance Audubon Adventures. This is one of our primary projects focused on the youth of Polk County. Each of our members has received a letter describing this very important project. Audubon Adventures provides the county schools with learning kits exposing young children to the natural world through language arts, science and environmental literature. Each kit correlates to specific sections of the Nation's and State's academic achievement standards. To date we have had 44 members generously contribute toward this important project. Our thanks to the following contributors:

Virginia Adler	Alice Hallinan	Ginger Ramsbottom
Paul & Janet Anderson	Mae E Hartsaw	Earle & Katie Roberts
Carol Bagby	Kay & Scott Hedden	Ronnie's Carpets, Inc
Dorothy Ballard	Clay & Joyce Holland	Emily & John Sansone
Marion Bates	Bill & Rose Karnofsky	Robert & Marjorie Saunders
Scott Bunn	Sara Kiefer	John & Sandra Sloan
Carolyn Coon	Lakeland Christian School	Robert & Linda Snow
James & Marilyn Cummings	Shirley Lux	Nancy & Donald Southern
John Dame	Edna S. Marchman	Philip Steffey
Katherine Duvall	Jewell Mason	Richard & Therisa Suetterlin
William Earp	Patricia Muller	Lavern W. Timmer
Catherine C Eastman	Ellen Olney	Thomas & Sue Tuxill
Chuck Geanangel	Lynn Powell	Erik Warren
Gordon Grove	Ernest & Elizabeth Purnell	Joan Waters
Carol Guinn		Patricia Wiedenman

This program, perhaps more than any other, is the way to reach the next generation of people we hope will value our environment and become the stewards of our lands and wildlife in the future. Unfortunately, 44 contributors are a very small percentage of our over 800 members. If you have not yet sent in your contribution, we would be most grateful if you would do it now. We pay \$46 per kit. Each kit is designed for one classroom. If you would like to fund one or more kits, that would be wonderful. If you would like to help fund a part of a kit with \$5, \$10 or more, we (and the children of Polk County) would be very grateful. Lake Region Audubon is a Federally tax exempt 501 (C) (3) organization and any donation you make is deductible.

Contributions should be sent to:

Lake Region Audubon Society
C/O Bill Karnofsky, Treas.
1439 Grand Cayman Cir.
Winter Haven, FL 33884-2446

JOIN THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT
Count for Fun, Count for the Future
February 13-16, 2009

General Membership Meeting

The Meeting on March 11, 2009 will be a General Membership Meeting. There will be an election of officers.

LAKE REGION AUDUBON SOCIETY - EVENING PROGRAMS

Where: Circle Bar B Reserve

February 23, 2009

Work Shop Room

"Gopher Tortoise"

4399 Winter Lake Road

Program given by:

Lakeland, FL

Tabitha Biehl-Gabbard

(Located on CR 540 between

Polk County Natural Resource Division

Highway 98 and the Landfill)

March 23, 2009Time: 7:00 PM – 4th Monday of the Month

"Peace River"

January 26, 2009

Program given by:

"Snakes"

Dr. Lisa B. Beever, Director

Program given by:

Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program

Scott Spaulding, Manager

Come early and enjoy the beautiful Circle Bar B Reserve

Colt Creek State Park

LAKE REGION AUDUBON SOCIETY
PIZZA & FILM SCHEDULE

Where: Street Audubon Nature Center

February 2, 2009

115 Lameraux Road

"EDEN AT THE END OF THE WORLD"

Winter Haven, FL 33884

A national Geographic Production about Patagonia

March 2, 2009

Time: 7:00 PM - First Monday of the Month

"CRASH: A TALE OF TWO SPECIES"

November 3, 2008

Nature's Production of the shorebird, Red Knots

"SIX DEGREES COULD CHANGE THE WORLD"

and the Horseshoe Crab

A National Geographic Production

April 6, 2009**December 1, 2008**

"GALAPAGOS ISLANDS"

"BUGS" and Planet Earth's "RAINFOREST"

Beautiful documentary about these isolated islands

A Rainforest Adventure

January 5, 2009

"FISHING FOR A LIVING" & "SIGNALS & SOUNDS"

Donation: \$1.00 for One Slice of Pizza or a Serving of Salad

The Life of Birds, Vol. 3

Includes chips, drink and dessert

BBC video hosted by David Attenborough

Environmental Lands Update

Chuck Geanangel

All of the acquisition activity this period involves the huge Crooked Lake West project which is west of US 27 and south of Frostproof. This sprawling 14,000 acre property is the largest, most diverse that CLASAC has ever tackled.

Dunham tract

The County and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission closed on June 27 by buying 1,147 acres designated as a gopher tortoise mitigation park; our share of the \$12,353,716 price tag was \$750,000.

Stuart tract

Polk County and the Southwest Florida Water Management District have an Agreement for Sale and Purchase on the tract and should close on the property by the end of the year.

Atgar tract

An Agreement for Sale and Purchase for \$2,200,000 for about 996 acres will be brought before the BoCC on July 23.

Britt tract

An Agreement for Sale and Purchase for \$295,000 for 77 acres will also be presented to the BoCC on July 23.

While this ambitious project has a long way to go, outstanding progress has been made. Once again partnerships have saved the Polk County taxpayer a bundle.

If the budget is approved by CLASAC we will have \$2.1 million set aside for land acquisition and \$648,460 for land management. I'm sure that everyone realizes that property on our acquisition list far exceeds available funding.

With that in mind, planning is going ahead to place the new Environmental Lands Referendum Question on the ballot in 2010 in order to continue the funding into the future. Details have yet to be announced but we will need the help of all our members to pass the referendum.

The Circle B Bar is now open. The new Nature Discovery Center will knock your socks off.

Birding Events

Lakeland Christmas Bird Count

Saturday, December 20th. Contact Paul Fellers for details: 863-293-0486.

Lake Wales Christmas Bird Count

Saturday, December 27th. Contact Don VanDeman for details: 863-852-3756.

Avon Park Air Force Range Christmas Bird Count

Monday, January 5th. Contact Troy Hershberger for details: 863-452-4254.

Birding Field Trip to the Phosphate Mines

Saturday, January 10th. **Reservations required.** Contact Paul Fellers for details: 863-293-0486.

Lake Region is Number One!

The Lake Region Audubon Society is the recipient of the prestigious **2008 Audubon of Florida Best Chapter Award**. With nearly 50 chapters and almost 40,000 members, Audubon of Florida is one of the largest environmental organizations in Florida and perhaps the most influential. On October 25, in a ceremony at the Plantation Inn near Crystal River, Florida, Steering Committee members Chuck Geanangel, Bill Karnofsky and Lee Shoe accepted the award on behalf of the membership whose hard work and dedication was honored. We can all hold our heads higher with pride.

This is the letter of nomination:

11 good reasons why the LRAS should be honored with the Audubon of Florida Chapter of the Year award:

1. Caring for the Street Audubon Nature Center, owned by Audubon of Florida, has been a special project for the past 38 years. LRAS is responsible for the upkeep and daily expenses of the facility along with maintaining the 42 acre of grounds, and splits the major repairs 50/50 with our parent organization. Over the past three years, our society has contributed over \$65,000 of which \$31,382 was spent this year. A new enclosed viewing area, a new 700 foot chain link fence, and a new side porch were added with much of the labor donated. A new back porch and redoing the kitchen is planned for next year. Keeping the trails cleared and the lawns mowed is a full time job for the volunteer live-in caretaker. Local schools, due to budget cuts, are not using the facilities as much but we have a steady stream of home-schoolers. We have been lobbying for a full time naturalist/educator to manage the center.

2. Our annual Nature Faire at the Center, organized by Janet Anderson, drew 330 folks this year and nearly one half were children. Over forty members manned the booths and exhibits. Other special events are the popular monthly Pizza and a Movie night where members as well as the general public can gather over a fresh pizza and watch nature films. Over the years, more than a dozen Eagle Scout projects, under the supervision of Paul Anderson, have benefited the nature center and two are ongoing this year.

3. Our colorful newsletter is on line now and it is one of the longest and most diverse in the State with articles on local events, foreign trips, photo essays, conservation news, birds, flowers and butterflies. By going online for those interested, we saved nearly \$1,000 per year.

4. The new webpage is being updated with a photo feature which allows members to upload their pictures to share with others. A schedule of events is always available

5. Field trips featuring birds, butterflies and flowers are one of our mainstays with numerous trips to all parts of central Florida, lead by Dr. Paul Fellers, one of the premiere bird experts in Florida with 40 years of experience. Not only birds but butterflies and flowers are featured. Phosphate mine trips are good for ducks and shorebirds while the weekly Saddle Creek Park warbler walks on Saturday mornings lead by Bob Snow are a thirty year tradition. The energetic Audubon Bird Club meets most Thursdays and the fifty or more members can be found birding in all the birding hotspots within a one hundred mile radius of Polk County . Caravanning with leader Marvel Loftus is an adventure in its self.

6. Scientific study is a strong point with our membership. The Society has sponsored ten different yearlong bird and butterfly censuses over the years. The Lake Kissimmee State Park count is our present project. Every month 5 teams search their prescribed territory for any birds seen or heard. We normally tally over 150 bird species in the course of a year. Our Audubon Christmas counts are a 45 year tradition. The average of 135 species that we tally is exceptional for an inland count. Many of our members participate in Project Eagle Watch and the Florida Birdathon. Steering Committee member Charles Geanangel is the Florida editor of eBird, an online checklist created by National Audubon and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. The top rated Audubon of Florida collaborative grant this year is a wintering sparrow project at Tenoroc Fish Management Area, near Lakeland, now in its third year. The goal is to restore abandoned phosphate lands to productive sparrow habitat. LRAS, cooperating with the Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission, is picking up monofilament fishing line from 30 containers on the lakeshores of the Tenoroc Fish Management Area near Lakeland and sending the line to be recycled.

7. Every year a pamphlet with all of the events of the seasons is published in the newsletter and featured on the website. Local newspapers feature many of our events and help spread the word about the Audubon Society.

8. Membership is stable at about 700 individuals. The new membership chair hopes to improve on that number. Expanding our membership is high on our to-do list.
9. Locally LRAS is co-sponsoring a petition drive to collect 22,000 petitions to place on the ballot a charter amendment to cap the growth in Polk County. We are a member of the Growth Cap Coalition.
10. Our members are attendees of the Audubon Academies, the Regional Conservation Committees and one member is on the Board of Directors of Audubon of Florida.
11. We have been distributing Audubon Adventures to over 50 local schools for the past ten years.



David Anderson, Pres. A of F; Jaqui Sulek, A of F; Chuck Geanangel with award; Bill Karnofsky and Lee Shoe

THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!!

A great big thank you to Sally Gilmore. She coordinated the volunteers at the Nature Center from April 2007 through April 2008. Even though she didn't know many of the Bird Club members or other volunteers, she called people and helped to schedule someone to be at the Nature Center during the week. Sally came to enjoy Audubon activities through the pizza and movie night. We very much appreciate her help.

We also appreciate Beverly Albritton. She has taken over the job of coordinating the volunteers. She did it during this summer and is going to continue. Thank you Beverly!

Her phone number is 863-533-2829.

If you would like to be a Volunteer, just call Beverly and she will tell you all about it. You do not have to do anything, unless you wish, JUST BE THERE!! Submitted by Ann Pinner

**LAKE REGION AUDUBON
NEEDS YOUR HELP!!**

WE ARE HAVING A FUND RAISER!!

A SILENT AUCTION

FOR THE NATURE CENTER &

ALL OUR PROGRAMS

IN CONJUNCTION WITH OUR OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2009

WE NEED DONATIONS FROM OUR LOCAL

MERCHANTS or ANY SPECIAL ITEM

YOU PERSONALLY WISH TO DONATE

Please go to restaurants, golf courses, any small business, or anyone else who you think will donate an item. Contact me before you go to a business to make certain they haven't already been approached. If you wish to donate a good item, new or slightly used, that you think would be appropriate please contact me. One suggestion is a basket of wine. No perishable items can be accepted. I would like as many items as possible in my possession by Saturday morning, 9:00 AM on Dec. 6, 2008, our next committee meeting for the Open House. We will continue taking items for the Silent Auction up to the day before the Open House, Feb. 21st.

What is a Silent Auction? Items or a picture will be on display where people can write their bid at the Nature Center. The minimum bid will be half price of the value of the item. Items will go on display by Dec. 7, 2008 at the Christmas Party in the Viewing Porch of the Nature Center until the Open House on Feb. 22, 2009.

If you have any question just contact me. If you believe in the Audubon and Lake Region Society, please, we need a lot of items for the Silent Auction. This is one of our main Fund Raisers for the year. With these donations and with your help, we will be able to perform our programs and keep up the constant repairs of our beautiful Nature Center.

Thank you,

Marvel Loftus, Program Chairman

Phone: 863 324 9657, Cell: 863 289 8188, E-mail: marvel.loftus@gmail.com

BIRD CLUB, LAKE REGION AUDUBON, TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Schedules might change, call before coming if you aren't being notified on a regular basis.
MARVEL LOFTUS: Phone 863 324 9657 Cell 863 289 8188, E-mail marvel.loftus@gmail.com

Everyone is welcome. We meet every Thursday except during the Holidays and Feb 12, 2009. That week we are meeting on Saturday, Feb. 14. Bring binoculars, spotting scopes, cell phones, walkie-talkies, insect repellent and water. We usually bring a picnic lunch unless otherwise stated. Always bring a snack. We do some short walks and it will be stated in the list of trips. If you are on our membership list, you will receive a telephone contact from the calling committee every week. The telephone committee sets up the car pools in their area. Please notify them whether you will drive or need a ride. If you ride, you are expected to pay your share of the expenses. At the organization meeting a motion was passed to use \$.40 per car or \$.10 per person per mile from the meeting point unless other arrangement are made at the discretion of the driver. Schedule changes are given either by telephone or e-mail.

NOVEMBER 13, 2008 – FORT DE SOTO PARK, ST. PETERSBURG, FL

We will meet at the North Rest Area on the Skyway Bridge on I-275 at 9:00. If you need a ride call your Telephone committee person or Marvel. We will meet at McDonalds in Mulberry, Hwy 60 and CR37 at 7:00 AM. Our First Stop will be on CR679 the road to the park, right after you make the left turn, the second stop will be before the bridge to Tierra Verde business section. The Third Stop will be at the Tierra Verde Duck Pond and then to the boat landing in of Ft. DeSoto. Bring a Lunch. We will leave the park no later than 3:00 PM and not much walking.

NOVEMBER 20, 2008 – CIRCLE BAR B RESERVE, LAKELAND, FL

We will meet in the parking lot of the Discovery Exhibit Hall at 8:30 AM. Polk County vehicles will escort us around the Reserve. We are limited to 30 participants. The parks address is 4399 Winter Lake Road. Winter Lake Road is the same as CR540. From Lakeland drive south towards Bartow on Hwy 98. After going under the 570 Toll Bridge road make a left unto Winter Lake Road. Drive to the parks last entrance and make a right into the park. From Winter Haven drive east on CR540, Winter Lake Road. When you get to the intersection where if you can drive straight onto the 570 Toll Road, make a left onto Winter Lake Road, CR 540. The Landfill will be on your right. When the road guards stop look for the gate on your left. Drive into the park pass all those beautiful old Live Oaks to the parking lot.

DECEMBER 4, 2008 – LAKE PARKER & SPARROW FIELDS, LAKELAND FL

Meeting place will be announced.

DECEMBER 11, 2008 — COLT CREEK STATE PARK, LAKELAND, FL- GREEN SWAMP

Meet in the Parks parking lot at 8:00 AM. There is a fee. We will be taking a tram ride through the park. The tram is limited to 30 people. **RESERVATIONS HAVE TO BE MADE BY DEC. 4TH**. Call Marvel by that date. First come, first served policy. Direction to the park: Drive North on Hwy 98 to Hwy 471. It is after Hwy 98 becomes a 2-lane road. Make a right onto Hwy 471. Drive 3.6 miles and turn right into the gate of the State Park. Proceed after paying the fee to the parking/pavilion area. We will eat lunch at the park after the tram ride and then drive through the Green Swamp on our way home.

JANUARY 8, 2009 — MORRIS BRIDGE PARK, FLATWOODS PARK, & HILLSBOROUGH RIVER STATE PARK, EAST HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

Meet at 8:00 at the McDonalds on County Line Road between I-4 and Hwy 92 or at Morris Bridge Park at 9:00AM. Directions: West I-4 to North I-75, take the 2nd exit, #266, Fletcher (582A). It is a right turn off of I-75 and at the end of the exit ramp turn left onto Morris Bridge Road. The Park is 5 mi. from I-75 on your left. Bring a Lunch. We will be taking short hikes.

JANUARY 15, 2009 – MERRITT ISLAND REFUGE, TITUSVILLE, FL

Meet at 7:30 AM at Burger King on Hwy 27 and just North of I-4. Please let your Phone Committee person knows you will be meeting at Burger King or at 9:00 at the Boat Land on your left after crossing the inter-coastal bridge on CR406, the road to the refuge. Bring a lunch. Will discuss whether we will eat at Dixie Crossroads or not.

JANUARY 22 OR 23 OR 24, 2009 — LAKE APOKA AREA, NORTH ORLANDO AREA

Final plans have not been made as yet. This still might be a Saturday program.

JANUARY 29, 2009 LAKE ARBUCKLE, LAKE WALES & FROSTPROOF

Meeting place and time will be announced later.

FEBRUARY 5, 2009 — MOSAIC PHOSPHATE MINES

Meeting place will be announced. Paul Fellers will lead this trip. There is limitation of participation on this trip and reservations will be necessary.

Great Deal!!

Have we got a deal for You!! A new membership with Lake Region, Florida and National Audubon is available for only \$20 for the first year (renewals will be \$35 ... still a great deal!). In addition to all membership privileges, you also get the Audubon magazine and the Florida and Lake Region newsletters.

The \$20 initial membership would make a great gift for a niece or nephew graduating from school, a new retiree or a friend that enjoys nature. Just fill out the membership application in this newsletter, enclose a check made out to National Audubon Society for \$20 and send it to Membership Chairman, Lake Region Audubon Society, 1439 Grand Cayman Cir., Winter Haven, FL 33884

An alternative form of membership is local membership in Lake Region Audubon Society only. You will receive the local, "Eagles View" newsletter and all of your \$20 fee will be used locally. Make the check out to Lake Region Audubon Society and mail to the same address.

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.

**Support our advertisers
as
they support us!**

If you would like to receive email notification that the newsletter has been posted on the Lake Region web site (www.lakeregion.com), visit the site and click on the link to receive the newsletter via email.

"Over the long haul of life on this planet, it is the ecologists, and not the bookkeepers of business, who are the ultimate accountants." Stuart Udall

Street Audubon Center Work Day

The first Saturday of each month is WorkDay at Street Audubon Center. There is much work to be done to keep the center operational. This work spans the range of very light to very heavy. Trail clearing, tree cutting, trash hauling, dusting, sweeping, window cleaning or providing a cool drink for those doing the heavy work. We need you!

What do you have to do? Just show up at 9:00 am on the first Saturday of each month and plan to stay til noon or one. Pizza and soft drinks will be served to all volunteers at 11:30.

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

RONNIE'S CARPETS, INC.

LAKELAND, FL

FREE ESTIMATES - RESIDENTIAL, BUILDER
AND COMMERCIAL INSTALLATIONS

863-859-1441

800-541-4762

WWW.RONNIESCARPETS.COM

Open House

Street Audubon Nature Center

Sunday, February 22, 2009 at 2:00 PM

This is one of our main fund raisers of the year. We need volunteers to make this program work. We will have our next meeting on Dec. 6th at 9:00 AM at the Nature Center. Please come with ideas and suggestions..

Marvel Loftus

2008 - 2009 OFFICERS

Steering Committee:

Bill Karnofsky 863-324-5282
billkarnofsky@verizon.net
Chuck Geanangel 863-326-5748
hoatzin@tampabay.rr.com
Marvel Loftus - 863-324-9657
marvel.loftus@gmail.com
Paul Anderson 863-965-8241 jiandr@aol.com
Lee Shoe 863-632-1675 lshoe@tampabay.rr.com

Street Audubon Center Advisory Committee:

Chuck Geanangel, Bill Karnofsky and Paul Anderson

Board Members: Charles Geanangel, Mae Hartsaw, William Karnofsky, Carrie Plaire, Paul Anderson, Paul Fellers, Janet Anderson, Marvel Loftus, Lee Shoe, Herman Moulden, Mali Rafats.

VP/Programs: Marvel Loftus
 VP/Conservation: Chuck Geanangel 863-326-5748
 VP/Field Trips: Paul Fellers 863-293-0486
 VP Membership:
 VP Newsletter: Herman Moulden editor@lakeregion.net
 Treasurer: Bill Karnofsky 863-324-5282
 Recording Sec: Mali Rafats 863-207-2104,
 malirafats@hotmail.com
 Corresponding Sec: Liz Purnell 863-324-3181

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.

AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY [make check payable to National Audubon Society]

This membership automatically enrolls you in the National Audubon Society, Audubon of Florida, and Lake Region Audubon Society.

You will receive the publications from each organization:

- National Audubon Society - Audubon Magazine
- Audubon of Florida - Florida Naturalist
- Lake Region Audubon Society - The Eagle's View



Lake Region Audubon

Chapter E 25
7XCH

Cost: 1st year - \$20.00* Yearly Renewal: \$35.00

*Lake Region will receive all of the first year's dues. Thereafter it receives no direct portion of your annual dues.

LOCAL MEMBERSHIP ONLY [make check payable to Lake Region Audubon Society]

- This membership enrolls you in Lake Region Audubon Society.
- You will receive the local newsletter, *The Eagle's View*, which is published 5 times a year.

Cost: 1st year - \$20.00 Yearly Renewal: \$20.00*

* your first year's dues and each renewal dues goes 100% to support all Lake Region Audubon's programs and the publication of the newsletter, *The Eagle's View*.

MBR NAME: _____

PHONE #: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Save costs, send newsletter by e-mail

Please mail your check and this completed application to:

Lake Region Audubon Society
 Membership Chrm
 1439 Grand Cayman Cir
 Winter Haven, FL 33884.

If this is a gift membership for the person named above, please show your name here:

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 19, Issue 2
November/December 2008
Published five times yearly by
Lake Region Audubon Society,
115 Lameraux Rd.,
Winter Haven, FL 33884.

Injured Birds and Animals

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.

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.



Feature Photo

Young Brown Pelicans on the nest in South Lakeland. By Herman

To view these photos in color visit the Lake Region web site:

www.lakeregion.net