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Reminders...
... OAS Birdathon 2006, April 8, 2006. Pledge Sheet may be found on p4.
... Volunteers needed to help at the Spring Fiesta in the Park at Lake Eola on April 1-2, 2006. See page 5 for details.

March Field Trip - Wekiwa Springs State Park

Come join the fun trip on Saturday March 18th at Wekiwa Springs State Park. Bob Wheeler has put together some nice experiences for us including starting the day with a mist net and banding demonstration! It is very interesting to see how highly trained bird specialists handle, identify, and band these birds for research purposes. It is amazing how gentle and effective they are with our tiny friends. Seeing a Thrush, Cardinal, Wren or Warbler up close and personal is amazing! The remainder of the trip will consist of driving and shorter walks to different habitats. If you are not able to walk, you can still see many areas from very near the cars. I should also point out that the banding station is only 75 feet from a paved access road. You may want a fold up chair for this part.

For this trip, meet at the Albertson’s parking lot at the corner of 434 and Wekiwa Springs Blvd in Longwood at 7:30 am. We will leave by 8 am. Any questions before the trip you can call Bob Wheeler home 407-869-0303. Directions or problems on the day of the trip use cell # 407-739-0333. We will carpool from Albertson’s to the park. Bring a snack lunch to enjoy after the trip.
Success at OWP Festival
Because of Volunteers and
the Weather

Thanks to Bill Partington, Tom Williams, Dick Smith, Lorne Malo, Leesa Sward and Bob Stamps (bus tours); Mary Keim, Randy Snyder and Michael Kay (bird hikes); Richard Poole and Christine Brown (mist-net & bird banding), Milton Heiberg (photography field trips); Sonia Stephens, Katie Bretz, Peggy Cox, Susan Clary and Lonnie Thompson (kids’art and conservation/membership tables); and Teresa Williams, Cyndi Kay, Ellen Rocco, Betty Seegers and Chris Gandy (merchandise sales tables) for volunteering at the 7th Annual Orlando Wetlands Park Festival. It takes many people to allow Orange Audubon Society to co-sponsor this event. The weather cooperated and the crowd was one of the largest that has attended this event. Thanks again to all our wonderful volunteers.

Loretta Satterthwaite

Nominating Committee Hard at Work

The task of finding a slate for the Orange Audubon Society annual elections in April falls mostly on the shoulders of our nominating committee, consisting this year of Betty Seegers (407-351-3624), Tom Williams (407-332-5089) and Dick Smith, Chairman (407-257-7361 or dick.smith@zepmfg.com). This year is the biennial election of five officers, who serve two-year terms, as well as the election of at least five of the other fifteen members of the board of directors, who serve three-year terms. There may be a need for more than five board members due to resignations of current members who are no longer able to fulfill their three-year term obligations (e.g., the member has moved into an officer position, is unable to attend board meetings, is unable to contribute as a board member, etc.).

The president of the organization, especially, relies on the other officers and the complete board of fifteen members to facilitate the task of ‘running’ the society. I have had an especially good board of directors for the past four years and really appreciate those individuals who have stepped forward to assist in keeping Orange Audubon Society an active and successful chapter of National Audubon Society and Audubon of Florida.

Is it time for you to consider benefitting your society by serving on the board of directors? To make it easier for ‘newcomers’ to the board, remember that usually only 5 directors’ chairs are due to be elected each year, leaving 10 seats (plus the officers) of ‘experienced’ directors. Additionally, remember that each board member was new to the board at one time, so don’t be afraid that you’ll be too ‘green’ to be of service; every one of you has some special talent that can be put to use for the worthy cause.

If you are interested in serving your society by volunteering for the board of directors, please contact one of the nominating committee members. Thanks for your consideration.

Loretta Satterthwaite
Fort DeSoto Field Trip

Because Eckerd College could only provide ten (10) rooms this year, we are completely booked at this time. Of course, you are more than welcome to make your own arrangements and meet us on Saturday, April 8. We will be carpooling from the parking lot in front of the welcome center of the park between 8:30 and 9:00 AM. Several birders have already informed us that they will be meeting us there. If you want meet us, please me know in advance, so we can plan accordingly. My cell is 407-257-7361; e-mail is dick.smith@zepmfg.com.

We did not get enough of a response to the bus concept to justify chartering a bus for the day. If we have this field trip next year, we will probably do the chartered bus program. It is less expensive and more environmentally sound than all of us driving over to St. Petersburg individually, and we don’t have to depend on another organization having space for us.

For those who are signed up, the charge is $75.00 per room. The college will not be providing us with breakfast this year; our group is just too small for them to open the cafeteria on a Saturday. Please make your check payable to Orange Audubon Society and bring them to the March meeting or send them to our P.O. Box 941142, Maitland, FL, 32794-1142 by March 24. The last date to cancel for a full refund is April 3, 2006. If you have any questions, please contact me. Dick Smith, Field Trip Leader

February Hawk ID Course

The weather decided to give eighteen members and friends a great day to spend “learning our Hawks” at the Lake Apopka Restoration Area (LARA). With Bob Sanders’ lead, we recorded 56 bird species including seven raptors. Highlights of the day were the Peregrine Falcon and some less common variants of Red-Tailed Hawks, including Krider’s form.

LARA continues to be a joy to visit as it gives us encounters with multiple bird species at once, allowing for great teaching comparisons. We also were able to view examples of birds at many ages and from many angles, allowing all of us to come away with more confidence in identifying raptors. As a bonus, we also saw Grasshopper Sparrow, Purple Gallinule, and Forster’s Tern. We even watched an American Kestrel try to steal a mouse from a Red-tailed Hawk. Once again, thank you to Bob Sanders for giving us his Saturday and teaching us about his favorite birds.

Bob Ferguson

Welcome New Members!


Central Florida Butterflies Course

A 7.5-hour, 3-session Central Florida Butterflies course is being offered through Harry P. Leu Gardens (HPLG) and will be held Saturdays, May 6, 13 and 20, 2006 from 2:30pm – 5:00pm. The course will emphasize identification of local butterflies and their caterpillars and will consist of classroom and butterfly garden sessions. Recommended field guide is Butterflies through Binoculars: Florida by Glassberg, Minno and Callhoun. Instructors will be Orange Audubon members, Randy Snyder and Mary Keim. For registration and fee information call HPLG at 407-246-3621.

Beginner’s Bird Watching Class

Registration Deadline – Parking – Directions

Orange Audubon Society’s (OAS) 2006 Beginner’s Bird Watching Class, led by naturalist Tom Williams, will include 2 classroom sessions on March 25th and April 1st, 9 am–noon, Rollins College; and 2 field sessions on April 8th, Orlando Wetlands Park, times TBA.

Registration Fees: Audubon members $25; non-members $40, which includes handouts and materials and parking at Rollins College. Non-members may join the Audubon Society when registering and pay just $45, which includes class registration at the $25 member price and $20 for introductory membership (promotional rate for annual 3-way membership in OAS and the State and National Audubon organizations).

Deadline: All registrations and payments must be received by Tuesday, March 21st. Send check payable to Orange Audubon Society along with your name, address, phone and e-mail information to: PO Box 941142, Maitland, FL 32794-1142. Include completed membership application form if joining OAS. For more information, contact Tom (407-332-5089) or Teresa (407-644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl.rr.com). Download membership application form from OAS’ official website: www.orangeaudubonfl.org.

Parking passes & directions: Please pick up Rollins parking passes and directions from Teresa at the March 16th meeting at Leu Gardens, or call her to make arrangements.
**Orange Audubon Society**  
**Birdathon 2006 Pledge Form**

Name/Team Name: ____________________________________________  
Address: ____________________________________________________  
Phone (day/eve): ___________________________________________  
Email: ____________________________________________________

Is this your first Birdathon?   Yes/No  
Are you age 18 or under?   Yes/No  
Are you a current member of Orange Audubon Society?    Yes/No

**Birdathon Counters:**  
Turn in your pledge form, species checklist and all contributions (checks and cash) to Claire Hilliker at 615 Ellendale Drive, Winter Park, FL 32792 by **Monday, May 1, 2006**. Please do not have sponsors send their pledges directly to the Orange Audubon PO Box. **Questions? Call 407-677-5374.**

**Birdathon Sponsors:**  
Please make checks payable to “Orange Audubon Society.” If your employer will match your contribution, please include a matching gift form.

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Note: Sponsor contact information will be used only to acknowledge gifts. This information will not be shared or added to the Orange Audubon mailing list. Thank you for supporting Birdathon!

Total number of species seen: ________

SUBTOTAL: $ $

Check Total This Page:
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Get Ready for Birdathon on April 8th!

Calling all Birders and Birding Teams!!! Remember to mark your calendars for this upcoming Saturday, April 8th!!! Whether you decide to take off at the crack of dawn for a day of marathon birding or simply stroll your local birding sites before heading for a cappuccino, please get out and help us with our annual Birdathon fundraiser. A pledge sheet has once again been included for your convenience. Don’t forget to ask your neighbors, co-workers, and friends to sponsor your efforts! Remind them of all the candy, wrapping paper, and cookies you’ve purchased over the years if you must! It’ll be a grand time so join us in helping raise much needed funds. See you out in the field!
Claire Hilliker, Birdathon Chair

Local Wildlife Rehabilitator Needs

It’s that time of year when all the critters are doing ‘what comes naturally’. This generally leads to a lot more of them being taken to our local rehabilitators with injuries or as orphans. Please remember that each of these rehabbers has a long list of needed items (paper towels, dry puppy chow, laundry soap, baby cereal, unsalted nuts, soft cloths and towels, to name a few). Cash donations are especially useful and can be used for buying specific dietary products. So, be generous — as you always are — and make whatever contribution you can when you or someone you know makes use of these emergency facilities. A list of local rehabilitators may be found on the Orange Audubon website at http://www.orangeaudubonfl.org/assist.html. We try to keep this list as complete and up to date as possible. If you find that there are any inaccuracies or if you know of any licensed rehabber in the area that should be added to the list, please let us know. Thank you.

Photo Contest Winner’s Display Coming to Colonial Photo

Now that your interest is piqued, don’t forget that OAS’ 2006 (18th Annual) Chertok Open Nature Photography Contest is a digital competition. The contest theme is “Florida – Wild and Wonderful!” and deadline for entries is May 18, 2006. Entries cannot show humans, human-made structures or artifacts, or fauna or flora that is not native to Florida. There is a limit of four images per entrant. Cash and other awards will be announced June 15, 2006. Cost: $3 per entry for Audubon members; $5 per entry for nonmembers.

Application forms with complete contest rules and regulations can be picked up at all future OAS meetings or at Colonial Photo and Hobby. You may also download and print the application form (PDF file) from OAS’ official website: www.orangeaudubonfl.org using free Adobe Acrobat Reader. For additional information, contact Teresa: 407-644-0796 or mwilliams@cfl.rr.com. Teresa Williams, OASCNPC Chair.

No Fooling — We Need YOU on April 1 and 2

Orange Audubon Society’s large, and last of the fiscal year, spring fundraiser will occur at the Spring Fiesta in the Park the first weekend in April. This event is a large draw and we need many volunteers to help with our sales merchandise (once again, if we have volunteers, we will offer the kids’ art table for the young attendees). Please commit now to spending some time with us at the Lake Eola event. This is the last newsletter before this event, so don’t procrastinate with your call. Please contact me (407-886-2925; LNSOAS@att.net) or Teresa (407-644-0796; mwilliams@cfl.rr.com) to give your preference for day (Saturday or Sunday) and block of time between 8:00am and 6:00pm (3–4 hrs. is preferred, but less is also appreciated). We could also use help with the tent and tables set up on Friday, March 31, 5:30pm to about 7:30pm. Provide a phone or email address so that we can reply to your message. Thanks in advance for volunteering.
Loretta Satterthwaite

Coming soon to Colonial Photo and Hobby (CPH), 634 N. Mills Avenue, Orlando, FL is the anxiously awaited display window that will feature winning photos from Orange Audubon Society’s 2004 and 2005 Chertok Nature Photography Contests (OASCNPC). The expected “unveiling,” planned in late March, is perfectly timed to pique interest in the contest. The display will recognize winning photographers and emphasize the contest’s objectives of promoting interest and concern for preserving Florida’s native fauna and flora and creating an interest in nature photography.

OAS is grateful to CPH for supporting the contest not only with the in-store display, but also by providing prizes for the 1st through 3rd place winners of the 2006 contest, which truly enhances the contest.
ORANGE AUDUBON SOCIETY
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Gordon Wolfram (06) ........................................... 407-855-9633

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Calendar of Events

March 4, 2006  -  Saturday
LARA Bird Survey; 7:30am-Noon.
Pam Bowen 386-329-4870; pbowen@sjrwmd.com

March 4, 2006  -  Saturday
Tibet-Butler Backyard Habitat Fest; 9am-4pm.
FREE!  For info: 407-876-6696

March 11, 2006  -  Saturday
Wekiva Riverfest at Wekiva Springs State Park
Loretta Satterthwaite  407-886-2925

March 11, 2006  -  Saturday
Seminole Ranch Conservation Area Butterfly Survey.
Randy Snyder 407-851-5416

March 12, 2006  -  Sunday
Lake Jessup Conservation Area Bird Survey.
Lorne Malo 407-349-2536/407-659-4853(w)

March 16, 2006  -  Thursday
General Meeting, 7:00pm, Leu Gardens.
OAS Board Meeting takes place prior to the
General Meeting at 5:30pm.  All welcome.
Loretta Satterthwaite  407-886-2925

March 18, 2006  -  Saturday
Field Trip: Wekiwa Springs State Park.
Bob Ferguson 407-644-7850; rfergusonhsd@earthlink.net

March 18, 2006  -  Saturday
Mead Gardens Bird Survey; 8:00am-10:00am.
Dexter Richardson 407-760-8193
dex@dexwine.com

March 25, 2006  -  Saturday
Dr. Howard A. Kelly Celebration, Kelly Park in
Apopka, Loretta Satterthwaite, 407-886-2925

April 1, 2006  -  Saturday
LARA Bird Survey; 7:30am-Noon.
Pam Bowen 386-329-4870; pbowen@sjrwmd.com

April 1-2, 2006  -  Sat-Sun
Spring Festival in the Park, Lake Eola
Loretta Satterthwaite  407-886-2925

April 2, 2006  -  Sunday
Sweetwater Oaks Garden Fair
Deborah Green  407-553-0028

April 7-8, 2006  -  Fri-Sat
Field Trip: Ft. DeSoto Park, St. Petersburg
Dick Smith  407-257-7361; dick.smith@zepmfg.com

April 8, 2006  -  Saturday
OAS Birdathon Fundraiser
Claire Hilliker  407-677-5374; hilliker@iag.net