

JANUARY 2020



MONTHLY MEETING JANUARY 13th



CLIMATE CHANGE: AN UPDATE ON THE SCIENCE AND OUR BIRDS

Join us for an update with Terry Root, PhD, National Audubon Society. Her research, beginning with her pioneering large-scale research examining continent-wide ranges and densities of wintering North American birds using National Audubon's Christmas Bird Count Data, focuses on large-scale ecological consequences of climate disruption.

Social Hour: 6:30pm

Business Meeting: 7:00pm Presentation: 7:30pm

First Congregational Church Fellowship Hall 2031 S. Euclid, Sarasota

CLICK -> MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAMS

Pre-Monthly Meeting Dinner All Members Welcome! Gecko's Restaurant 1900 Hillview Ave



The Sarasota Audubon Society Nature Center Open daily 9:00am-1:00pm

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What's New?

Update on the Quad Parcels at the Celery Fields



On November 6, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) of Sarasota County voted to allow Sarasota Audubon and the Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast (SAS/CFGC) to work with the County to develop a conservation easement for 3 of the 4 parcels west of the

5:00pm

Contact Karen Jensen (karensarasota@yahoo.com)

2019-2020 ACTIVITY SCHEDULE



CLICK FOR COMPLETE SCHEDULE

SAS ACTIVITIES

CLICK --> COMPLETE SCHEDULE

GUIDED WALKS

Our SAS guided walks are led by some of our most knowledgeable and experienced birders. Come along with us! Suggested donation for walks and tours: \$2 members, \$4 non-members. No reservations are necessary unless noted.

Monday, January 13th MYAKKA RIVER STATE PARK

8:15am. Meet in the first parking lot right after entrance (park opens at 8:00am, fee). Joyce Leary (508-737-8954).

Tuesday, January 28 URFER FAMILY PARK

8:00am. 4000 Honore. Leaders Lynn Jakubowicz (lynn234@verizon.net) and Martha Straub.

OSCAR SCHERER PARK WALKS

8:30am. Every Thursday, Nov 7-Mar 26: Meet inside park at Lake Osprey/Nature Center (opens 8:00am, fee). On the 1st and 2nd Thursday walks the leader is Peter Brown (508-2415541). On the 3rd, 4th and 5th Thursday walks the leader is Joyce Leary (508-737-8954).

CELERY FIELDS WALKS

First Mondays - "PM Birding"

Jan 6, Feb 3 and Mar 2. 3:00pm-5:00pm. Meet at the Nature Center. Leader is Margi Haas <u>mhaas@pipeline.com</u>

Third Mondays

Jan 20, Feb 17, Mar 16: 8-10am: Meet at Raymond Rd Boardwalk. Leader is Peter Brown (508-241-5541)

Fourth Mondays

Jan 27, Feb 24, Mar 23. 9:00am- 11:00am. Leader is Joyce Leary (508-737-8954)

Third Thursdays

Jan 16, Feb 20, March 19. 8:00am. Leader is the SAS Survey Team lynn234@verizon.net

Second Saturdays

Jan 11, Feb 8, Mar 14, Apr 11: 8-10am. Meet at Nature Center. Leader is

Peter Brown (508-241-5541)

NATURE CENTER GARDEN TOURS Fourth Saturdays

Celery Fields (the 4th parcel has a fire station on it). The easement, which will consist of over 30 acres, will buffer the existing 400+ acres of the Celery Fields from commercial use. In return for taking these parcels off the market, SAS/CFGC will raise funds to restore and maintain native vegetation on the parcels. The parcels will eventually be open to the public, but for low impact use only: i.e., nature trails, a designated pervious parking area etc.

On December 21, SAS/CFGC met jointly with various county department to begin work on details of the easement. Conservation easements are in perpetuity, so all parties have to agree to the conditions of use.

Sarasota Audubon and the Conservation Foundation are thrilled with this outcome. Although we have much work ahead, it must be done in order to protect and extend habitat for wildlife at the Celery Fields while shielding wildlife from buildings and noise. We'll keep you posted as the project moves along. In the meantime, SAS has set up a Quad Fund. If you would like to make a donation to this beyond worthy cause, go to: www.sarasotaaudubon.org

Grant Awarded for SAS' Celery Fields Explorers Program



The Gulf Coast Community Foundation of Venice has granted Sarasota Audubon \$7,500 to help with the Celery Fields Explorers program. This program is now in its 7th year. SAS, in conjunction with Around the Bend Nature Tours, has provided environmental education at the Celery Fields to close to 6,000 area schoolchildren at a cost of around \$15 per child. The bulk of the cost of this program is for transportation; the schools are reimbursed for gas and bus use. No buses-no kids! If you see a bunch of schoolchildren at the Raymond Road boardwalk or in the pavilion at the Nature Center, you are seeing the program in action. Thank you GCCF for helping SAS get the kids outside and into the Fields.

Jeanne Dubi, Acting President, Sarasota Audubon Society

CONSERVATION



Extinction: A million species at risk, so what is saved?

A decade-long project to save one of the world's most endangered birds has finally found success, with the birth of two chicks. But with an estimated one million species at risk across the world, and nothing like the money and resources to save them all, how do conservationists choose the few they can save?

CLICK --> READ THE BBC NEWS ARTICLE



Jan 25, Feb 22, Mar 28, Apr 25, 9:30am-11:30am. With Master Gardener Jan McLaughlin, enjoy our evolving subtropical garden, designed to attract migratory & resident birds, butterflies and moths.

CELERY FIELDS ACTIVITIES

NATURE CENTER GARDEN TOUR JANUARY 25th

9:30am-11:30am. Join Master Gardener, Jan McLaughlin and enjoy our eviolving subtropical garden, designed to attract migratory and resident birds, butterflies and moths.

BOARDWALKS

At Palmer Blvd and Raymond Rd boardwalks, a SAS Celery Fields Bird Naturalist is on duty every day, Nov 1-Apr 30 from 8:30am - 10:30am.

CELERY FIELDS CLEANUPS

Help keep Palmer blvd and our area trash free! Wednesdays at 9:00am: Jan 15, Mar 11 & Apr 15

SIDEWALK ASTRONOMY

Deep Sky Observers <u>www.lgdso.com</u> will set up telescopes at the Nature Center for star and planet gazing! Saturday: February 29th, 6:30pm

VOLUNTEER FOR SAS

Saturday, February 8th, 10:00am-12:00pm at the Nature Center. Learn about volunteer opportunities with SAS and how to apply. <u>volunteer@sarasotaaudubon.org</u>

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Saturday, April 4th, 5:00pm-7:00pm, Nature Center. All SAS volunteers invited!

volunteer@sarasotaaudubon.org

GARDEN WORKDAYS

Sunday, February 9th: 8:30am-11:00am. Help the Temple Emanuel garden volunteers at our mid-winter spruce-up. volunteer@sarasotaaudubon.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

Saturday, January 4
SAS CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Stu Wilson - stuwilson@comcast.net

Saturdays, January 11 & 18 'WINGSPAN' THE BOARD GAME

3:30pm - 5:30pm."WINGSPAN" Learn to play this wildly popular birdy board game! Space is limited. REGISTER ONLINE. \$5 per person, per session. Nature Center. Harma Nyhof birdsrq@gmail.com

Saturday, February 1 MEMBER ART AND PHOTO SHOW

A month long exhibit of our members' art and photography. Opening Reception 4:00pm-6:00pm at the Nature Center. SAS.Art.Committee@gmail.com

Saturdays, February 1 & 8

EAGLE NEST TOURS

8:00am - 12:00pm. Visit active nests with Dale Nauman, Cost

IT'S TIME...TO RENEW



YOUR ANNUAL SAS MEMBERSHIP!

Click Here to Join or Renew Online

Mail a check payable to: Sarasota Audubon Society Address: SAS, 999 Center Road, Sarasota, FL 34240

Don't Know if You Renewed?

Contact: <u>membership@sarasotaaudubon.org</u>



BIRDS OF PARADISE WORKSHOP



Saturday, January 18 1:30 PM

Sarasota Audubon Nature Center

Join Debbie Huckaby, executive director of the Birds of Paradise Sanctuary, and learn how parrots are rescued, evaluated and re-socialized for adoption. Meet some rescued parrots and learn to identify parrots that may be in distress.

Children welcome!

\$5 donation - No Reservations - pay at the door

For more information contact: Doug Janson doug.jj@gmail.com



\$30. REGISTER UNLINE. FEDRUARY 1St trip leader, Harma Nyhof birdsrq@gmail.com. February 8th trip leader, Barry Gerber blgerber@comcast.net.

Monday, March 23, Tuesday, April 7: ROBERTS BAY ROOKERY BOAT TOURS

1:00pm-3:00pm. REGISTER ONLINE. Cost \$30. Harma Nyhof - birdsrq@gmail.com

CLICK ---> REGISTER ONLINE



SAS CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

We are pleased to offer another season of educational and inspiring classes and workshops.

WORKSHOPS

These 1.5 hour workshops provide a wealth of information on a variety of topics. Meet at the Nature Center at 1:30pm. \$5.00 Donation. No registration required; Pay at the door.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS & SCHEDULE

CLASSES

Check out this season's interesting selection of classes; eBird and Everything About Birds. Online Registration Required

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS & SCHEDULE

CLASS REGISTRATION

Questions? Contact: Kathryn Young kathwren4@gmail.com

TRIP REPORTS



SIESTA KEY SHOREBIRD WALK November 6, 2019



Tai Chi For Beginners

Learn beginner Yang style Tai Chi in a relaxed outdoor setting.

6 Sessions over 3 weeks

January 7, 9, 14, 16, 21 and 23

10:00am - 11:00am SAS Nature Center \$25 donation for 6 sessions or \$5.00 donation per session



Sarasota Audubon Society Prepares For **Its Annual Christmas Bird Count January 4th**

National Audubon just released its Summary of the 119th Christmas Bird Count for 2018-2019 and, as anticipated, our Sarasota circle shined!

In terms of number of species recorded, our 173 species put us 23rd in the U.S. and Canada (where 2,434 CBCs were conducted) and 2nd in the state of Florida. Only Gainesville, with 175 specoes, topped us in the Sunshine State. Our 143 volunteer participants put us 38th.

Everyone associated with the Sarasota CBC should be justifiably proud. It will be difficult to match our 2018-2019 results on January 4, 2020, but we'll certainly give it a shot.

CLICK ---> READ ARTICLE IN SARASOTA MAGAZINE

More information contact: Stu Wilson (stuwilson@comcast.net)

CELERY FIELDS CLEANUP



Help keep the Celery Fields trash free. **January 15th** 9:00am Most at the Nature Center



On a clear and calm morning on Siesta Beach, twenty-five participants joined in on the first shorebird walk of the season. There were large numbers of gulls, skimmers and terms loafing on the beach affording everyone great views The dominant Lesser Black-backed Gull put on a nice show sporting a bright red gonydeal spot on it's bill and the yellow legs associated with the species. Two Dunlin were spotted at the shore as we moved north and in some brown sand near vegetation, we were able to study the differences between Western & Least Sandpipers and Semipalmated & Snowy Plovers.

A Peregrine Falcon was spotted by Peter Brown in a large Norfolk Island Pine. This bird is often seen on a ledge on a nearby condo. As we were leaving, we were treated to a large flyby group of White Pelicans, a very nice way to end our walk.

Claire Herzog & Mary Heinlen

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MYAKKA RIVER STATE PARK December 3, 2019

Sixteen participants joined John Ginaven and me for today's "Owen Comora Memorial" drive/walk at Myakka River State Park. We covered all the usual spots (river's edge near the entrance, Alligator Bridge, Weir, and BirdWalk) and had a good day. The weather was a bit chilly (50-60F) but otherwise sun-filled and splendid.

Highlights were a dark-morph Short-tailed Hawk sailing over our heads at the Alligator Bridge, a juvenile Snow Goose near The Weir (that we had to track down), and Stilt Sandpipers which showed well at the Alligator Bridge and Bird Walk. The complete bird list (55 species) follows, highlights in blue:

CLICK --> TRIP BIRD LIST

Stu Wilson



THE TOILET TOUR December 5, 2019





SAS VOLUNTEER STATS

We have over 100 wonderful volunteers at SAS. Here are some interesting statistics compiled by Volunteer Coordinator, Vickie French

New Volunteers June - Dec 2019

14 new applicants, 5 recorded hours totaling 86.75 and KUDOS to Marie Brooks-Deamud - 43.5 hours and Helen King - 36 hours

2019 Volunteer hours and number of volunteers who recorded hours, from June - Dec to date:

BN - 371. 58 Hours, 24

Docents - 575.42 Hours, 26

Garden Maintenance - 449.5 Hours, 5

All Volunteer hours and number of volunteers recording hours for 2019, 2018, 2017 for June - December to date

2019 - 2558, 55 2018 - 2913, 50 2017 - 1913, 48

ON THE BOARDWALKS WITH THE CFBNs

There have been a total of 2,245 visits to the Boardwalks since the start of the season on November 1st.

Here is the breakdown:

1,350 - local residents
729 - visitors from 38 other US states
166 - overseas visitors most from the U.K. and Canada.
Isn't that phenomenal? Wow!



FLORIDA SCRUB JAY FESTIVAL JANUARY 11th



We still have openings for volunteers to assist. The most important shift is the early shift to help set-up the tent. That shift is from 8:45-11:00 but if someone can help for an hour to help get the tent up, it would be greatly appreciated. Helen King is one of those planning to come out just to help set-up.



Fourteen curious SAS members and I toured the Water Reclamation Facility on Lorraine Road in December. It is one of three county facilities that process waste water from your toilet, drains and garbage disposal.

We saw how raw sewage comes in, and rags and other bulk items are removed, then watched how the large tanks of oxygen diffuse the treated waste with oxygen, which allows the bacteria naturally found in the waste to break down the organic materials.

In the next tank there is further filtration and treatments, and in this tank the solids sink to the bottom. Sand is added to help clean the water which is then sent on to additional tanks where the water is chlorinated. Solids are removed and heated to kill further bacteria which are then sent to places where it can be used as compost.

The treated and cleaned waste water is pumped to a large pond out back. From here the water is pumped to ponds throughout the county where the reclaimed water can be used as irrigation for communities and golf courses. These ponds can be identified by lavender colored pumps near the pond. None of the water from these treatment plants is potable.

Kathryn Young

MYAKKA PARK CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT RESULTS

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December 16, 2019



A relatively low individual count but higher species diversity than last year at 123 species; the fourth highest count on record for the park. Fifty one participants logged almost 50 hours in the field covering 150 miles on foot and by vehicle. It was a clear, warm day with the ephemeral wetlands predominately dry and lake water depth low. Lower vegetation reduced habitat for the marsh species and waterfowl. Low numbers of ducks, terns and no gulls. The usual suspects of herons and egrets were observed. Increased numbers of Black-necked Stilts, Avocets and Glossy Ibises favored the lower water levels.

The Nanday Parakeet was a new record for the count although usually associated with more urban areas. It was seen north of the Upper Lake. The rare Snow Goose (only the 9th record) was seen south of the Upper Lake weir. This lone goose has been observed since Thanksgiving and still can be observed in the same area.

We set record highs for individuals observed for six species: Sandhill Cranes (710), Limpkins (168), Cooper's Hawks (4), Short-tailed Hawks (3), Ruby-throated Hummingbirds (4) and American Crows (581). Over 400 cranes were observed on a sod farm off M & J Road. Four parties observed a single Cooper's Hawk. Another good year for Bald eagles: 17 adults and 14 immature. On the deficit side, no gulls, Northern Flicker, Florida Scrub-Jay or Brown Thrasher. It's been a decade since scrub-jays have been observed.

There were several species not usually seen: Hooded Mergansers (25), American Avocets (19), Peregrine Falcon (1), Crested Caracaras (3), Western Kingbird (1), Cedar Waxwings (12), American Pipits (33) and American Redstart (1). The lower lake party saw the lone Lesser Scaup, Spotted Sandpiper and Sedge Wren. The north drive party recorded a single American Bittern.

NATURE CENTER GARDEN WORKDAY FEBRUARY 9th

8:30am to 11:00am Temple Emanuel volunteers are coming again this year to help. Openings are available now to sign-up. If volunteers can only stay an hour that's fine too but sign-up in Volgistics.

Register now on Volgistics or Email: volunteer@sarasotaaudbon.org

SARASOTA AUDUBON SOCIETY PRESENTS

MEMBER FINE ART/PHOTO SHOW

"Fabulous Florida Flora and Fauna"

FEBRUARY 1-29, 2020

OPENING RECEPTION

Saturday February 1, 2020 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM



VOTE FOR PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

Check out our Raffles Light Refreshments Served

Sarasota Audubon Nature Center

at The Celery Fields 999 Center Road

941-312-6533

ww.SarasotaAudubon.org

Open Daily 9am – 1pn



Show.

The event is free and open to the public during normal hours.

Join us as we celebrate the talents of our SAS members for our Fine

Art/Photography

Isabella Chelekis SAS Student Board Member



Growing up on Florida's coast, I learned to sail when I was young. The sea, always prominent in my life, introduced me to a world of adventure and beauty. My connection with nature, forged by hours of sailing and observing wildlife, has led me to discover thrilling opportunities in our community.

I've always felt that it's important to share my passion for marine ecology and environmental advocacy with our community through education that promotes enjoyment and protection of our oceans and marine critters.

The Big Flats Marsh group recorded one Lesser Scaup. The south drive party saw the only Northern Parula. The Crowley party saw the only Marsh Wren and American Redstart and was the only group to record Sora. The Upper Lake party recorded several species seen by no other group: Northern Shoveler, Northern Bobwhite and Chipping Sparrow.

Swan geese were sighted in Myakka Valley Ranches but these are not included in the state checklist as a countable species because they are domesticated. A ranch homeowner acquired a pair years ago and has added more to her flock in subsequent years. The geese are poor fliers and appear content to remain on site. Such sightings can provide a baseline in case this species disperse. Some of us remember the black-bellied whistling ducks introduced in the 1960s on a Sarasota golf course that decades later are wild along the Myakka River floodplain and now a countable species.

Jon Thaxton's group again had the most participants (14). He's mentoring the next generation of birders and encouraging other long-time residents to discover the wonder of birding at the park.

CLICK ---> MYAKKA CBC SPECIES LIST

Next year's Myakka River Christmas Bird Count is on Monday, December 14th, 2020.

Belinda Perry



LIFE LISTS

I guess most serious or semi-serious birders keep a life list of birds seen. More and more birders are using E-bird, but I still use an app called 'Lifebirds Journal' partly because it would be far too daunting a task now to transfer it over, and also because the app is good. It can filter in all sorts of interesting ways, and it works for me. Prior to that I used a spreadsheet, and even before that I used notebooks for each country I went to. Actually, at the beginning I used to keep my list as ticked off and dated birds in a Field Guide.

Whichever way you do it the list becomes a kind of commentary on your life. My list started over 40 years ago and still when I am going through it or adding to it I have vivid memories of the time, place and who I was with. It becomes a kind of peg on which I can hang a whole load of memories. In a way the bird becomes incidental to the journey to find it, and the place it was found, maybe a vast and windy reed bed, a rocky shore, a remote cliff top, a snow-covered saltmarsh. It all comes back, the sights, the smells, the sounds, who you were with, and of course, the bird. And the more effort you put into finding the bird, the longer the journey or the more difficult, the better the memory.

In fact when my eldest brother died I wrote a kind of essay, a whole series of accounts of birding trips we shared together and it helped me anchor the joys and fun we had shared. On one occasion we were walking along a wrack-line on a desolate winter shore in Wales looking for a Snow Bunting. We trailed along through washed up bits of wood, broken clumps of rope, an old shoe, plastic bottles, vegetation and general trash. And when we had almost given up hope we saw this little female, on her own, far from her flock and home, pecking away quite happily, not even bothered by us. It's fixed in my memory, a precious moment, together, with the brave little bird.

I'm sure the list means many things to many people. For me it's much more than a list of birds, it's a repository of my memories, my

Eager to be at the forefront of wildlife conservation, I participated in every leadership training opportunity I could find. Through the Boys & Girls Club STAR program, I became a board member on the Sarasota Audubon Society's Board of Directors.

Fueled by the exhilaration of positively impacting my coastal community, I devoted myself to enacting change on a local level. This past spring and summer, I volunteered for both the Mote Marine Laboratorys Sea Turtle Conservation & Research program and the Audubon Society's Bird Stewardship program. As a beach patrol volunteer, I helped to monitor turtle and shore bird nests, and track scientific data in conjunction with the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission. I also became a high school intern for the Mote Marine Laboratory where I enjoy the fantastic opportunity to conduct research and interact with marine scientists.

As I continue my second year as a Sarasota Audubon Society Student board member, I hope to broaden my knowledge and experience so that I may bring back what I learn to my community and share it with my peers. I am determined to pursue the wildlife conservation field as a future post-secondary career so that I may inspire our society to become more sustainable and eco-conscious.

Isabella Chelekis Sarasota Audubon Society, Student Board Member



NOTES FROM THE BIRD RECORDER

November/December 2019 Notable Sightings

Celery Fields:

- Ash-throated Flycatcher
- Vermilion Flycatcher
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo
- Yellow-headed Blackbird
- Bronzed Cowbird
- Broad-winged Hawk
- Western Kingbird

Myakka River State Park:

- Snow Goose
- Snail Kite
- Pectoral Sandpiper
- Yellow-billed Cuckoo
- · Lincoln's Sparrow
- American Redstart

Siesta Beaches / Glebe Park/ North & South Lido Beaches:

- Common Tern -NL & SB
- Magnolia Warbler-SL
- Franklin's Gull-SB
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak-NL
- Cape May Warbler-GP
- Black Scoter-Turtle Beach

Palmer Lake/ Worthington:

- · Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
- Snail Kite
- Solitary Sandpiper

Pinecraft Park:

- Red-breasted Grosbeak
- Wood Thrush
- Swainson's Thrush

me in biras.

I've talked to other people about how birds get on their list, which to include and which to not. Some people include heard birds, some people include 'exotics', some people will use a particular source e.g. Clements or I.O.U, some people won't include a bird unless their spouse/partner also sees it, some people insist they have to be able to personally identify it, or that it's close enough to be able to see the key field marks. In the end, to me, it's the way of capturing the experience that's more important than the precise numerical figure at the end of your list. Last year at St Marks Wildlife Refuge a number of us stood in the pre-dawn waiting for an American Woodcock to emerge. Eventually we heard it, and in the barely lightening darkness we saw the bird circling around several times in front of us. It was a shape, a darkness darker than the surrounding darkness. We were joyous. But could we really say we'd seen an American Woodcock? Maybe. Maybe not. But does it matter? That experience of standing together on the road, waiting in the darkness, and then the bird to call, then appear. There's no denying the thrill, and the memory of that moment and though I would love a better look, in the daylight, it certainly went on my

My conclusion is that a list is very personal. Each person has their

own rules and their own integrity about what and what not to include. At the end of the day I think that's what matters. That and the memories.

Glynnis Thomas



Help support our Sarasota Audubon Society when you shop at Amazon: CLICK FOR DETAILS

Black-throated Green Warbler

- Summer Tanager
- Yellow-throated Vireo

Crowley Nature Center:

- Chimney Swift
- Magnolia Warbler
- American Redstart

Bay Street Park:

- Philadelphia Vireo
- Wood Thrush
- Yellow-throated Vireo
- Clay-colored Sparrow

Oscar Scherer State Park:

- Florida Scrub Jay
- Broad-winged Hawk
- Snail Kite
- Magnolia Warbler

Deer Prairie Creek Preserve:

• Brown-headed Nuthatch

Cooper Street Ball Field, Venice

· Lark Sparrow

FOS Purple Martin's 12/26 Pinecraft Park, heard by Edith Miller

Claire Herzog

Birding Hot Spots Sarasota/Manatee Counties



Can be purchased for just \$6.00 at the Nature Center, monthly meetings and field trips or \$8.50 by mail. Send a check to: SAS, PO Box 52132, Sarasota, FI 34232-0337. Hot Spots is also available at Environeers, Book Store 1, Selby Gardens, Historic Spanish Point, Oscar Scherer State Park and Myakka River State Park.



Our Favorite Local Hot Spots

The Sarasota Audubon Society is pleased to include this interactive component to our newly redesigned web site. It is called "Favorite Local Birding Hot Spots." These Hot Spots in Sarasota and Manatee Counties were selected because of the substantial number of bird species counted at the site and because they are located within approximately 30 minutes from downtown Sarasota.

CLICK --> SAS WEB SITE

Birds of Paradise Needs Our Help



CLICK FOR ----> UPDATE

SAS CRAFT FAIR



Photograph by Sara King



Photograph by Glynnis Thomas

For more information contact: Debbie Huckaby, Executive Director

727-366-9997 http://birdsofparadise.org/index.html

BECOME A SPOONBILL CLUB MEMBER



If you have named Sarasota Audubon in your will or beneficiary in any way, you are eligible to become a member of our legacy group, The Spoonbill Club

<u>CLICK TO FIND OUT MORE</u>

SARASOTA AUDUBON NATURE CENTER COMMEMORATIVE BRICKS

Help build a path to the future

Purchase a commemorative brick!



Engrave a loved one's name, or a short quote on a brick to commemorate a lasting tribute, or mark a special occasion. Ask us about other naming opportunities. Truly a gift that gives back.

CLICK TO ORDER ----> BRICK ORDER FORM

Subscribe to SRQ Bird Alerts!

Need the latest birding info for our area?
To subscribe: Click here to send an email.
Thanks to Peter Rice for providing this service.



Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center

Since 1970, bird populations in the U.S. and Canada have declined by 29%, or almost 3 billion birds, signaling a widespread ecological crisis. The results show tremendous losses across diverse groups of birds and habitats - from iconic songsters such as meadowlarks to long-distance migrants such as swallows and backyard birds including sparrows.

Learn more about the 3 Billion Birds campaign and Seven Simple Actions to Help Birds.

CLICK ---> SMITHSONIAN MIGRATORY BIRD CENTER

Sarasota County Butterfly Club



Sarasota County Butterfly Club Programs are open to the public and are held most 4th Thursdays of each month Sept-May.

Visit www.sarasotabutterfly.com to learn more!

AUDUBON SOCIETY

ON DISPLAY

PHOTOGRAPHY DISPLAY

Lou Newman's Photography Display continues at the SAS Nature Center

through the month of January. During December, Lou's exhibit served as a backdrop for an interview regarding the Celery Fields that was broadcast on our local SNN TV channel. We invite you to come take a look at these magnificent photos of birds in flight.



2020 MEMBER FINE ARTS & PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW - REQUEST FOR ARTISTS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

This season we will be holding a combined Fine Arts & Photo Show in February 2020 with the theme of "Fabulous Florida Flora & Fauna". A request for artists and photographers was sent out early in December with details and a sign-up application. A second request will be/or just has been sent out. Participation will be on a first-come basis. The deadline to enter is January 10th.

INVITATION TO ATTEND 2020 MEMBER FINE ARTS & PHOTO SHOW

You are invited to attend our Opening Reception on Saturday, February 1st, from 4:00 to 6:00 P.M. at the SAS Nature Center at the Celery Fields. Keep an eye out for the invitational flyer, which will be sent out this week. The exhibit will be open for viewing daily from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 PM through the month of February.

Sue Herring







Pin Badge - \$5.25, Magnet Badge - \$7.25 Add \$4.50 for shipping. Send name and address to: Michael Fox, 2749 Ringling Ave. Sarasota, FL 34237



We have something for everyone. Stop in and see us....

All proceeds support our SAS Nature Center

Marcy Packer, editor editor@sarasotaaudubon.org



Watershed
& Coastal
Climate Walks

Let's talk about it! Actions for Protection

FRIDAYS
Winter 2020
9:30am - Noon



CLICK ---> DESCRIPTION & LOCATION OF CLIMATE WALKS

REGISTER --> CLIMATE WALKS



Kite Tales

The monthly newsletter of the Great Florida Birding & Wildlife Trail CLICK ---> SUBSCRIBE



Submissions, comments and questions always welcome

Send to: editor@sarasotaaudubon.org



CLICK: Sarasota Audubon Web Site



Click here