



THE BROWN PELICAN

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SARASOTA AUDUBON SOCIETY

MARCH 2020

MONTHLY MEETING MARCH 9th



BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCH RESEARCH AT TALL TIMBERS

Join Jim Cox, from the Tall Timbers Research Station in Tallahassee, Florida, who will talk with us about the on-going studies of the Brown-headed Nuthatch which have revealed some startlingly interesting information.

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
5:00pm

Contact Karen Jensen (karensarasota@yahoo.com)



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

Click Through This Issue!

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ON THIS DATE IN

1900

THE FLORIDA AUDUBON
SOCIETY WAS FORMED

Nine women and six men assembled on March 2, 1900
near the shores of Lake Minnehaha in Maitland, Florida.

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.

CROWLEY NATURE CENTER

FRIDAY, MARCH 6th

7:00am-10:00am. Meet at the park, 16405 Myakka Road (\$3 park fee). Several different habitats. Indigo Bunting, Eagles, Redheaded woodpeckers, etc. Bring water & snack. Leader: Sharon Wilcox swilcox@fastmail.fm

OLD MIAKKA PRESERVE

THURSDAY, MARCH 12th

7:30am. Meet at the SAS Nature Center. NO FACILITIES AT THE PARK. Leader: Rick Greenspun birddoggie1@gmail.com

VENICE ROOKERY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18th

8:00am. Meet at McDonald's at Bee Ridge & Cattlemen to carpool.

Leader: Kathryn Young kathwren4@gmail.com

LONGBOAT KEY / LEFFIS KEY

TUESDAY, MARCH 24th

8:00am. Meet at Broadway Beach access north end of Long Beach Key. Leader: Stu Wilson 512-897-8341

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"

Mar 2. 3:00pm-5:00pm. Meet at the Nature Center. Leader: Margi Haas mhaas@pipeline.com

Second Saturdays

Mar 14, Apr 11: 8-10am. Meet at Nature Center. Leader: Peter Brown (508-241-5541)

Third Mondays

Mar 16: 8-10am: Meet at Raymond Rd Boardwalk. Leader: Peter Brown (508-241-5541)

Third Thursdays

March 19, 26: 8-10am. Meet at Nature Center. Leader: Peter Brown (508-241-5541)

They shared an affinity for birds and the desire to educate others about the value of birds and the need for humans to come together to protect them.



CONSERVATION NEWS

BOBBY JONES GOLF COURSE

On February 18, 2020, the Sarasota City commission voted 3-2 to go with Option III. This option was supported by the Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast and Sarasota Audubon Society, as well as many in attendance and the majority of surveyed community citizens.

Here are some of the planned features:

1. Restore and upgrade 27 holes of golf (a reduction from the current 45).
2. Increase the park's nature-based recreation to 130 acres with created wetland (30 acres) and pine upland.
3. Expand the use of the park, including a playground, lawn bowls and nature trails.
4. Store 1,620 metric tons of CO2 in the wetland, the equivalent of preventing greenhouse gas omissions from burning 1.8 million pounds of coal per year.
5. Offer the potential to expand the Legacy Trail along Circus Blvd to and through The Meadows and on to Benderson Park.

Read about this victory: [CLICK-->Sarasota Herald-Tribune](#)

Another win for the environment!

BEACH NESTING BIRD SEASON

The Beach Nesting Bird season is kicking off. Kylie Wilson, Coordinator for Audubon Florida, will be at the March 9th Sarasota Audubon general meeting to explain the program and to ask for volunteers for help in protecting our birds on the beach.

Kylie has worked in Sarasota and Manatee Counties for several years managing this program and is a super ambassador for Audubon and for birds.

Please consider meeting with Kylie and volunteering a few hours at our lovely beaches to help protect our nesting birds.

Contact Kylie: [CLICK ---> TO EMAIL](#)



RENEW YOUR ANNUAL SAS MEMBERSHIP!

March 19, 8:00am. Leader: SAS Survey Team
lynn234@verizon.net

Fourth Mondays

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

NATURE CENTER GARDEN TOURS

Fourth Saturdays

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

CELERY FIELDS 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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11th

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

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

SATURDAY, APRIL 4th

5:00pm-7:00pm, Nature Center. All SAS volunteers invited!

volunteer@sarasotaaudubon.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

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

FLORIDA FOSSIL HUNTING

Saturday, March 7th

Click --> Join or Renew

Mail a check payable to: Sarasota Audubon Society

Address: SAS, 999 Center Road, Sarasota, FL 34240

Don't Know if You Renewed?

Contact: membership@sarasotaaudubon.org



FLORIDA FOSSIL HUNTING



Saturday, March 7

1:30 PM

Sarasota Audubon Nature Center
999 Center Rd, Sarasota, FL 34240

Madeline Verbeek will introduce the fun that is fossil hunting here in Florida; we will review local sites, common fossil finds, laws, regulations, and reference materials needed for you to become an amateur paleontologist. Feel free to bring your own finds the day of the workshop so we can identify and discuss them together! Children welcome!

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

For more information contact:

Doug Janson
doug.jj@gmail.com



1:30pm

SAS Nature Center

Madelaine Verbeek will share the fun of fossil hunting in Florida. Where to look, common fossils, regulations and materials needed to become an amateur paleontologist. Feel free to bring your own finds to ID and discuss.

No registration required.
Pay at the door - \$5.00 donation

[WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS & SCHEDULE](#)

CLASSES

EVERYTHING BIRDS

March 3, 10, 17 & 24

Field Trips: March 3, 10 & 17 are field trips from 8:00am-11:00am. Locations will be announced to registered students

March 24 will be in the classroom at the SAS Nature center meeting at 1:30pm

Kathryn Young and other experienced co-leaders will explore birding in different habitats. This class with field trips will help you advance your birding skills.

Cost \$40

Online Registration Required

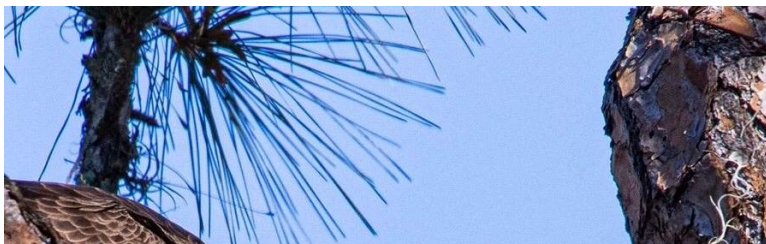
CLICK ---> [CLASS REGISTRATION](#)

Questions?

Contact: Kathryn Young kathwren4@gmail.com

TRIP REPORT

EAGLE NEST BUS TOURS



50th Anniversary

Earth Day

CELEBRATION

WHEN:
WEDNESDAY
APRIL 22
11:30am-1:30pm

WHERE:
FIVE POINTS PARK

HOSTED BY:

Celebrate sustainability while enjoying live music, the Trippin' On Pizza food truck, and learning about:

PLASTIC POLLUTION, WATER QUALITY,
ENERGY EFFICIENCY, RENEWABLE ENERGY,
FOOD WASTE, ELECTRIC VEHICLES,
AND MORE!

Free Plants & Give-Aways

Sustainability@SarasotaFL.gov • 941-263-6314

SAS will be participating in the Earth Day Celebration the City of Sarasota is hosting on Wednesday, April 22 from 11:30-1:30pm at Five Points Park in downtown Sarasota. Volunteers are needed to help with the SAS table. Openings are available for 4 shifts from 11-2pm. We'll be providing information about birds and the importance of habitat

Interested?

Email: volunteer@sarasotaudbon.org





Photograph by Tim Smith

In early February Sarasota Audubon organized two Eagle Nest Bus Tours, which were a great success. We once again enjoyed the expertise of Dale Nauman, who has extensive knowledge of the many Bald Eagle nests in Sarasota and Manatee counties. The first trip on February 1st had to be postponed to the next day due to heavy rain and wind, which, true to Florida form, had moved through by the next day.

During both tours we were very lucky to have a beautiful day out watching these majestic birds and their offspring. It is remarkable how they have adapted to the ever increasing development in Sarasota County. Many nests are now very close to homes and busy roads.

Enclosed is a photo graciously shared by Tim Smith of Nokomis Wildlife Images who was standing near us at one of the nests. He had one of those amazing cameras with a very long lens.

We do these trips every year. They are very popular and sell out fast. The dates are published on our website in the Fall, so if you would like to join us, please sign up online as soon as you are able.

Happy birding,
Harma Nyhof

Climate Corner

According to the Yale Center for Climate Communication, 75% of Americans are certain that climate change is happening, but less than half of them are talking about it.

The 2019 study goes on to say that in order for folks to do something about climate change they need:

- To understand the impact of a problem on individuals
- To recognize that the problem will impact our local area
- To recognize that the problem is a problem now, and not at some far-away point in the future
- To feel some level of positivity ('what can be gained, not what is lost').

To that end, Sarasota Audubon is providing a series of Watershed & Coastal Climate Walks led by our own Karen Willey, Nature Center Manager and Climate Change Interpreter. These walks take place in area parks and preserves and each one focuses on a different aspect of climate change that we can see in the park.



NATURE CENTER NATURALISTS

The SAS Nature Center is looking for daily "Nature Center Naturalists" to answer questions about the native gardens, bird feeders, and the Purple Martin boxes. This is an outdoor volunteer position.

INTERESTED??

Please contact:

Nature Center Manager, Karen Willey
gardens@SarasotaAudubon.org



ALPHA BIRD BANDING CODES

Have you ever wondered what those 4-letter codes that identify birds for scientific purposes mean? What a **LAGU** is, or a **RUTU**?

If you'd like to find out....[CLICK ---> BIRD BANDING CODES](#)

CELERY FIELDS CLEANUP



Help keep the Celery Fields trash free
March 11th, 9:00am
Meet at the Nature Center
Contact Joanna Bear (jbear0822@aol.com)

Happenings !

At The Nature Center

GARDEN CLEAN-UP



Our February 9th garden clean-up event was a big

The cost is \$10/person and you can learn more about each walk and register here.

Walks are Fridays from 9:30-11:30 and are slow and easy with plenty of stops for interpretation along the way. And the best part is, we end with a discussion of what is happening to change the impacts of climate change at the park, and specific ways we can help on a community level. When we end with hope, things happen. Join us!

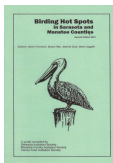
Karen Willey attended a Florida Audubon webinar for chapters to learn more about climate change advocacy. Florida Audubon is willing to support a training workshop in our area to learn how to be effective in communicating with local governments to make change. Stay tuned for more information as we move forward with this training in the Fall of 2020.

Karen Willey, SAS Nature Center Manager



Help support our Sarasota Audubon Society when you shop at Amazon:
[CLICK FOR DETAILS](#)

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, FL 34232-0337. Hot Spots is also available at Environers, 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](#)

For more information contact:
Debbie Huckaby, Executive Director
727-366-9997 <http://birdsofparadise.org/index.html>

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

success. We had 12 Master Gardeners provide 30 hours of volunteer time mostly in our butterfly garden, 13 teens and 5 adults from Temple Emanuel provided 27 hours putting pine straw on our pathways and mulching, a mother and son team gave 4 hours. That's 61 hours of community help!

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all our wonderful garden cleanup volunteers!

OTHER HAPPENINGS....

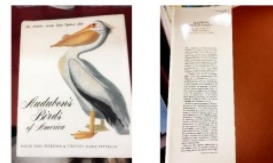
New Art Exhibit at the Nature Center

This month Sarasota Audubon is featuring award-winning local watercolor artist, Elaine Charney. Elaine's artwork will be available for viewing and purchase during the month of March. Please stop in to take a look. Here are a few samples of her artwork:



Gently Used Audubon Baby Elephant Folio Book Available for Purchase

Sarasota Audubon recently received a donation of a large book, the Audubon Society Baby Elephant Folio with the title of "Audubon's Birds of America"; edited by Roger Tory Peterson & Virginia Marie Peterson. The book is in good – very good condition with an intact book cover. The price is \$75, or best offer (original price \$185). Stop by the Nature Center to take a look at it during our normal hours of 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM daily.



Sarasota Audubon Nature Center Snowbird

Our SAS snowbird at the Nature Center front desk is now officially a bird watcher with its new binoculars. Our visitors love it and often make cute comments about it. Check it out next time you visit.





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](#)

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

[CLICK TO FIND OUT MORE](#)

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.

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!



Kite Tales

The monthly newsletter of the
Great Florida Birding & Wildlife Trail

[CLICK ---> SUBSCRIBE](#)



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](#)



NOTES FROM THE BIRD RECORDER

February 2019 Notable Sightings

Bay Street Park

- Broad-winged Hawk
- Magnolia Warbler

Celery Fields

- Blue Grosbeak
- Bronzed Cowbird
- Cape May Warbler (Edgar Dr)
- Least Flycatcher
- Painted Bunting
- Purple Martins (nesting)
- Western Kingbird
- White-crowned Sparrow
- Yellow-headed Blackbird

Costco Pond, Sarasota Square Mall

- Clay-colored Sparrow

Italian-American Club, Venice

- Lark Sparrow (also State College, North Port)

Myakka River State Park

- Barn Swallow (also Crowley Nature Center)
- Lincoln's Sparrow
- Snow Goose
- Solitary Sandpiper
- Swallow-tailed Kite
- White-throated Sparrow

Oscar Scherer State Park

- Bachman's Sparrow
- Florida Scrub Jay (also Shamrock Park, Lemon Bay Park)
- Swallow-tailed Kite

Oaks Clubhouse

- Blue Grosbeak
- Broad-winged Hawk
- Greater Scaup

Pinecraft Park

- Black-throated Green Warbler
- Hermit Thrush
- Magnolia Warbler
- Purple Martins (nesting)
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak
- Swainson's Thrush

Siesta Beach

- Burrowing Owl
- California Gull
- Common Tern
- Great Black-backed Gull

Black-throated Blue Warbler and Summer Tanager seen on private property

Claire Herzog



SARASOTA
AUDUBON SOCIETY

NAME BADGES

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

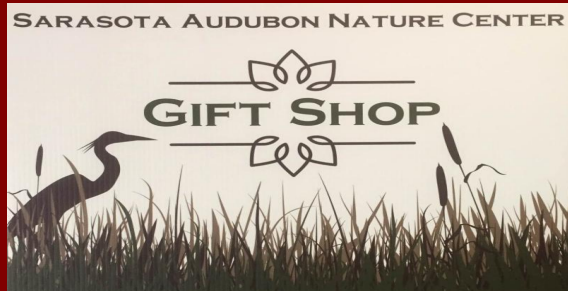


SARASOTA
AUDUBON SOCIETY

CLICK: Sarasota Audubon Web Site

Marcy Packer, editor

editor@sarasotaaudubon.org



Stop by and see our variety of nature related items



All proceeds support our SAS Nature Center



**Submissions, comments and questions
always welcome**

Send to: editor@sarasotaaudubon.org



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facebook®

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