



Winging in the Gap

Fall in Southwest Florida - migration in motion

November 16, 2020

News, links to activities and learning sites to keep you up to date and actively learning about birds, wildlife and other topics of interest.
Monthly newsletter for the fall.

Bird Blog: --> Bear Blog Polar Bears & Climate Change by Lou Newman

Although most Polar Bears are born on land, they spend most of their time at sea. Their scientific name *Ursus maritimus* means "Maritime Bear" and derives from this fact. Polar Bears hunt their preferred food of seals from the edge of sea ice, often living off fat reserves when no sea ice is present. Rising temperatures cause the sea ice to melt earlier in the year and form later in the fall. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.

Arctic Images by Lou Newman 2007-2019



Polar Bears' paws are especially adapted for walking on ice and swimming.

Photo credit Lou Newman



Tom Heitzman and Cindy Shore at Sweet Bay Nursery

Designing your Yard with Native Plants

The Serenoa Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society invites Sarasota Audubon members to this program about designing your yard with native plants. Tom Heitzman will share basic approaches to native gardening as well as tried and true tips from Sweet Bay Nursery in Parrish. [Register here](#)

Birding Festival Dec. 3-7th Lake



Apopka in Central Florida

Orange Audubon presents The North Shore Birding Festival which highlights the St. Johns River Water Management District's 20,000-acre Lake Apopka North Shore, one of Florida's top eBird hotspots. 42 field trips over 4 days with built-in COVID-19 precautions.

[Learn more and Register Here](#)

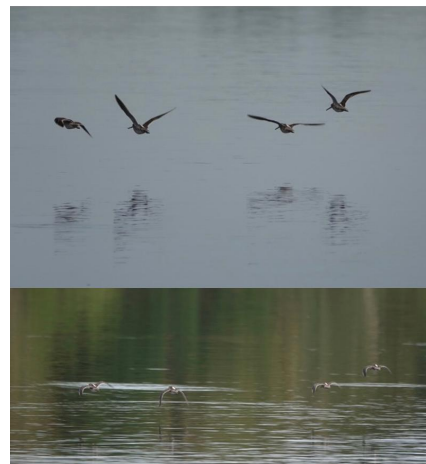
Who Am I?



Name that Bird

Here you will find photos (taken by local photographers) of Pieces and Parts of Birds that you can find in Sarasota County. I have tried to include one trait that is unique for each bird. Click the caption to find the answer. Let's have some fun!

~Kath "Wren" Young, Education Chair
Sarasota Audubon



[19. Who Am I?](#)



[20. Who Am I?](#)

Field Guide to Fun!

The Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast created a Wild About Nature Field Guide to Fun activity book for families to enjoy together. This resource includes craft projects, scavenger hunts, trail guides, and other unique activities from the



many organizations (including "Be an Ornithologist" by SAS) typically present at the Wild About Nature Festival. [Virtual Field Guide](#)

Local Conservation Honorees Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast

Beautiful Ponds of Venice and Manatee Fish & Game Association were named Conservation Partners of the Year by the Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.



The Last Word is Graphic:



Julie Wraithmell, Executive Director [Audubon Florida](#), at [Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary](#)
by Maisie, her 12-year old daughter

Note: If you plan to visit Corkscrew Swamp, be sure to get a reservation in advance,
they are limiting numbers of visitors.

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The Nature Center Is Closed
Nature Is Open!

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Sarasota Audubon Society
999 Center Rd
Sarasota, FL 34240
www.sarasotaaudubon.org

gardens@sarasotaaudubon.org



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