



Winging in the Gap

It's Summer with Sarasota Audubon!

June 18, 2021

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

Shorebird Nesting Season in Florida



Shorebird Alliance: July 4th Special Training Pinellas and Sarasota counties

The July 4th weekend is a hectic weekend for all beach-nesting birds, particularly for the colonial nesting species such as the Least Terns and Black Skimmers.

Bird stewards are a vital part of the conservation and protection of beach-nesting species! Join us virtually to refresh what you know about being an effective bird steward during the July 4th weekend.

During this training, you'll learn how to prepare for the long weekend, chick-fencing installation, coverage needs and scheduling, and best ways to prevent firework disturbances.

This training will be specific to those stewarding during the long July 4th holiday weekend, with a focus on stewardship during the evening of

Saturday, July 3rd and Sunday, July 4th.

Register Here



Black Skimmers feed by touch, called the bill-snap reflex. When their very sensitive lower mandible feels a fish it drops back, and the upper mandible snaps down on it, to capture the fish. The head snapping back is so lightning fast that most people cannot see it happen. Look close and you can see the small fish this skimmer has captured.

Thanks for Tuning in to Audubon Extra

The global pandemic led Sarasota Audubon to find new ways to connect with our membership. To that end, the Weekly What's UP! was born.

In January 2021 we added the "Extra" Zoom meeting which became VERY popular. Over the past 5 months, some of our most viewed Zoom meetings were the Extras. ([Watch them again HERE](#))

Audubon Extra
Playlist



Sarasota Audubon is a volunteer-run organization, and Sarasota, Florida is a snowbird destination. Meaning many of our members retreat north for the summer.

So we take a break, and regroup, and get ready for full season starting up again in October. Have a safe, healthy and happy Summer from Sarasota Audubon.

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



33. Who Am I?



34. Who Am I?

Big Thanks! To All Who Bid and Donated

Bid Early, Bid Often
Sarasota Audubon Online
Auction Fundraiser



TOGETHER WE WILL
SAVE BIRDS

Thank you to all who participated in the Sarasota Estate Auction last weekend, and to those who donated items over the years. It was a resounding success with almost \$4000 raised to help save the birds and their habitat! We are grateful to our generous

community.

If you missed it, there will be a second online auction in September with more items including Duck Stamps and prints. Stay tuned...

Drones and Nesting Birds: Do NOT Mix



Abandoned Elegant Tern eggs on a beach at Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve in Huntington Beach, CA.

Photo: California Department of Fish & Wildlife

The LA Times reports that over 2,000 eggs were abandoned after a drone crash on a California beach. The saddest part: the operator had been warned off before this happened!

The Elegant Terns that should have been keeping watch had taken off, terrified by a drone that crash-landed into their nesting grounds on an island at the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve.

"We've never seen such devastation here," said Melissa Loebl, an environmental scientist who manages the Huntington Beach reserve. "This has been really hard for me as a manager."

Although Elegant Terns are not considered threatened or endangered, Bolsa Chica is one of just four known nesting sites.

[Read Entire Article Here](#)



Above: Betty and Wade Matthews with the many Anniversary cards received.

A Milestone Celebrated

You may recall this notice in a recent Brown Pelican newsletter. On 5 May 5 2021 Wade and Betty Matthews celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Betty met Wade when she was teaching high school, and he had just started with the Foreign Service at the US Department of State. What an adventurous life they led living in nine countries, visiting over 150 countries and all 50 US states, while raising their three children. In 1990 they moved to Sarasota after retirement, but that did not stop them from being active in many organizations ,including Audubon, and continuing their worldwide travels.

Dear Auduboners,

We greatly appreciated all the cards and other messages that many of you sent for our 60th wedding anniversary. It was a real joy to have so many kind and generous words from our birding friends. You really up-lifted our spirits.

You,

Matthews

A Very Special Thank

Wade and Betty

location, location, location...

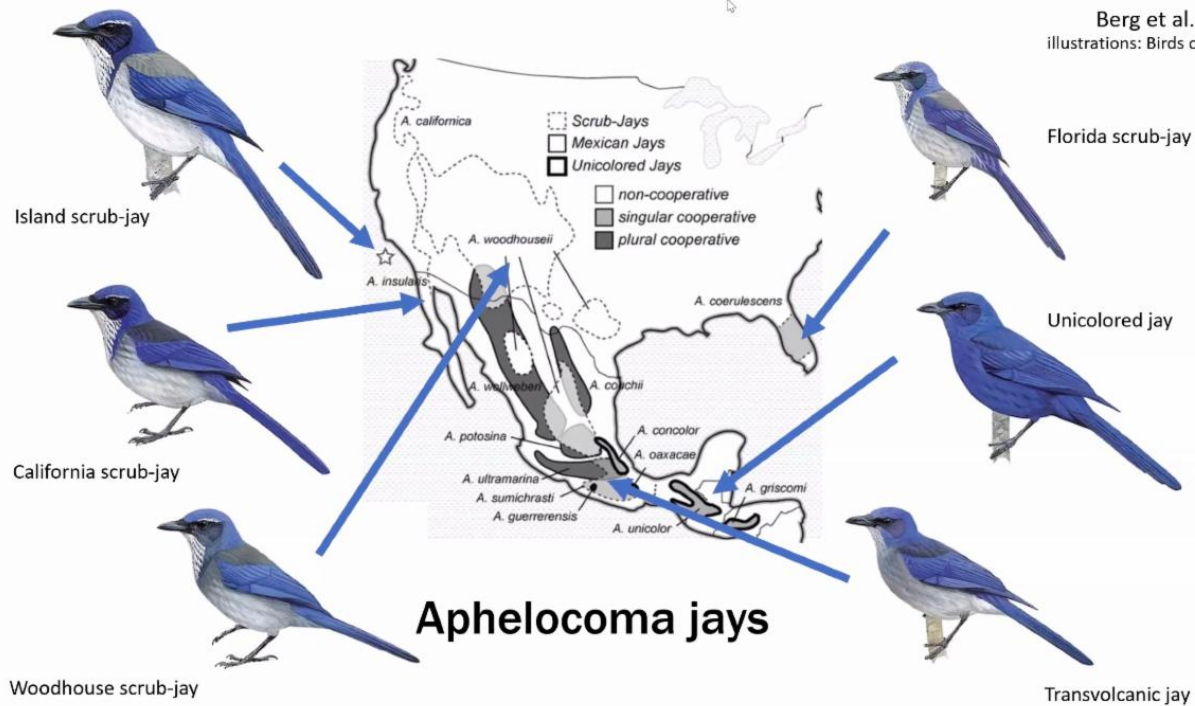
Channel Islands National Park



If you missed the virtual [Florida Scrub-jay Festival](#) this year, never fear! It is available on the Sarasota Audubon YouTube Channel. There were some fantastic speakers, including Dr. Mario Pesendorfer calling in all the way from Vienna, Austria to speak about the rare Island Scrub-jay in California.

Watch Videos - [Link to Scrub-jay Festival Playlist](#)

The Last Word is Graphic: Aphelocoma Jays



Monthly Programs will begin again
in October 2021

[View all past Sarasota Audubon Society programs HERE](#)

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Nature Is Open!

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Missed a back issue? No worries!
[Archive Here](#)

