



# THE BROWN PELICAN

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SARASOTA AUDUBON SOCIETY

## OCTOBER 2021



### Message from the BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear Auduboners,

It is the time of year when we update you on the status of Sarasota Audubon. We were hoping to open in October to resume normal activities. However, Covid is still with us, and as a result, the Board of Directors has made some decisions for how we will function over the next few months:

- The enclosed Activities Schedule was developed with a full opening in mind, but indoor activities will not take place for October and November at least. To view the event calendar, visit [www.sarasotaaudubon.org](http://www.sarasotaaudubon.org) and use the **Activities menu**. It may be helpful to first view *Calendar Tips* (the first item under the Activities menu) to learn how to use the calendars efficiently. Check the website for any changes since we are taking this month by month.
- Our monthly meetings will be via Zoom for October, November and December. Look for an invitation via eBlasts and on the website to register for these highly informative and interesting presentations.
- All outside activities: guided walks, Bird Naturalist program, and any other outside scheduled events will proceed with MASKS OPTIONAL. You must decide if you want to join any of these events.

As we look forward to resuming full activities in the next few months, we are seeking docents for our nature center and other

volunteers for specific tasks. See WE NEED YOU! below for some great helping opportunities.

**Quad Parcels** project: We are busily applying for grants to get the project funded so we can move forward to the full fundraising plan stage. We can't wait (but wait awhile we must) to create an expanded safe haven for birds and wildlife with diverse habitats including wetlands and woodlands; for our community: public gathering areas and meandering trails throughout with ample opportunity for passive recreation.

**Willis Smith Construction** has been selected as the Construction Manager for the Quad Parcels project. WS built the Sarasota Audubon Nature Center and we are very pleased to be working with them again. Read the full media release here: <https://www.sarasotaaudubon.org/news/willis-smith-joins-project-team-for-quad-parcels-at-the-celery-fields/>

**On a Sad Note:** Joyce Donatelli passed away on Monday, September 27. Joyce was one of our dearest and friendliest nature center docents. She went about her work in her quiet and sunny way and was beloved by all. On Sundays, we would find her vacuuming the nature center and straightening up in readiness for the 9am opening. We will miss her deeply.

Take care always,

Sarasota Audubon Board of Directors

## MONTHLY MEETING INFORMATION

**General Meeting**  
**Monday OCT 11, 2021**  
**7:00pm on ZOOM**

**Birding in Alaska**  
**with Tammy & David**  
**McQuade**



Alaska with it's vast wilderness is home to some of the best birding in North America with its mass of migrant shorebirds, nesting waterfowl and Asian vagrants. Please join the McQuade's as they discuss the where, what, & how of birding in Alaska.

**Register**

**Tammy & David McQuade**



in St. Paul, Alaska

Register



## Notes from the NATURE CENTER



Prolific is the word of the month at the Nature Center. Between the weeds and the butterfly larvae we are overwhelmed with participants! We can't keep up with weeding, especially since most of our garden volunteers are not available in the summertime.

We discovered that monarch caterpillars will eat butternut squash when they run out of milkweed! But the larvae were relieved when members Sandy and Jerry Ulrickson shared their milkweed crop with us. Thank you so much!

The Nature Center will remain closed for now, but Nature is open! Come on out and enjoy the gardens.

***Karen Willey***  
***SAS Nature Center Manager***

## CONSERVATION



**REGISTER NOW! One-day, Virtual Workshop**

**Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2021 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

## **CELERY FIELDS SUSTAINABILITY DAY NOVEMBER 11<sup>th</sup> 9am-Noon**

Participate in the online workshop on Wednesday Nov. 10 and then join us at the Celery Fields Nature Center. Come out and meet the organizations that are bringing Sarasota County to the forefront of sustainability as part of the **Sustainable Communities Workshop**.

**Sarasota Audubon Society** hosts this event at our LEED Gold Nature Center and Native Gardens. Tour the building which is net zero solar powered. Then tour the gardens and discover the beauty and essential nature of native Florida plants.

Tour is in four 20-minute segments and will last 1 hour and 20 minutes.

1. LEED Gold Building Tour of Nature Center
2. Native Garden Tour
3. Microforest tour **FL Veterans for Common Sense Fund**
4. Palmer Boardwalk Tour with **Stocking Savvy Environmental**

**Tours every 30 minutes begin at 9am, last tour 11am**

[\*\*Sustainability Tour Registration\*\*](#)





**Lakeview Park** Photo credit Tom Matrullo

A hidden gem in Sarasota - [Learn more here](#)



**1918 Migratory Bird Treaty Act  
Reinstated!**

by Maxine Joselow, Washington Post

A new U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service rule announced this week will restore protections under the bedrock environmental law, which prohibits the “take” of migratory bird species — regulatory-speak for hunting, killing, capturing, selling or otherwise hurting them. Under President Donald Trump, officials had sought to exclude accidental deaths from the “take” definition, a move backed by the oil and gas industry.

Interior Secretary Deb Haaland said the new rule would protect more birds threatened by the dual crises of climate change and habitat loss. She noted that the Fish and Wildlife Service officially declared the ivory-billed woodpecker extinct Wednesday, along with 22 other species that can no longer be found in the wild.

[Read entire article here](#)

## CLIMATE CORNER

**Rising Tide: Increasing Demand for Climate Action**  
**October 14, 2021 5pm – 8pm, Selby Gardens**

**Sarasota Audubon Society will join many other local environmental groups with climate information about birds.**





## SARASOTA WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL SPECIAL EVENT

### RAMÓN CRUZ

National President, The Sierra Club



**Thursday, October 14  
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

**Marie Selby Botanical Gardens**  
900 S. Palm Avenue  
Sarasota, FL 34236

For further information:  
[www.sarasotawac.org](http://www.sarasotawac.org)

RSVP to 941-487-4603  
or [info@sarasotawac.org](mailto:info@sarasotawac.org)

Non-members may send a check for  
\$50 made out to Sarasota World  
Affairs Council to the address below.

The Sarasota World Affairs Council, based at New College of Florida, is a member of the largest non-profit, non-partisan grassroots organization in the United States dedicated to educating and engaging American on global issues.

## THE RISING TIDE INCREASING DEMAND FOR CLIMATE ACTION

From youth climate activists to major institutional investors, the 195 nations in the Paris Climate Agreement and the U.S. mayors and governors across the political spectrum committing to 100% clean energy – demand for climate action is rising rapidly. Will it be fast enough? Will it benefit those most affected? What are the implications for Florida?

Ramón Cruz has more than 20 year's experience in advocacy at the intersection of sustainability, environmental and energy policy, urban planning, and climate change. With degrees from American University and Princeton University, he was Deputy Director of the state environmental regulatory agency in Puerto Rico. In the U.S. he held senior positions at the Environmental Defense Fund, the Partnership for New York City, and the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy. In 2020 he was elected the first Latino President of the National Sierra Club, the nation's oldest and largest environmental organization, with 3.8 million members and supporters in 64 chapters throughout the United States

### Climate Change Event Ticket Includes

- 5:00** – Free entry to the gardens + free display table space for participating environmental groups
- 5:30** – Appetizer buffet from Michael's on East with one drink ticket + cash bar
- 6:00** – Lecture by Ramón Cruz + Q&A afterward

**SWAC members: Free! Non-members \$50.**



[sarasotawac.org](http://sarasotawac.org)



[info@sarasotawac.org](mailto:info@sarasotawac.org)



941-487-4603



5800 Bay Shore Road  
Sarasota, FL 34243

### Rising Tide Registration Information

## WE NEED YOU! VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### **Brown Pelican Editor**

We are in need of an editor to work with us (at first) to get our info-packed newsletter out each

A word cloud featuring various terms associated with volunteerism and community service. The words are arranged in a circular pattern, with some larger and more prominent than others. The colors of the words include shades of green, orange, purple, and brown. The words include: GENEROUS, GIVING, AWARENESS, SERVICES, ASSISTANCE, MISSION, CARE, AID, RESPECT, TOGETHERNESS, TIME, VOLUNTEER, LIFE, CHARITY, ALTRUISTIC, COMMUNITY, CONTRIBUTION, ASSISTED, RESCUE, SUPPORT, HOPE, TEAMWORK, PERSON, DONATIONS, and ADULT.

**At the Manatee Viewing Center in Apollo Beach. Three days of field and boat trips, expert seminars on Zoom, keynote**





speakers, and a great nature expo!

[Learn more here](#)

## BIRD BLOG: by Lou Newman



### Chicks on the Beach

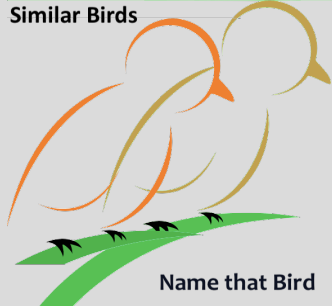
Several species of birds nest on Florida beaches. These birds nest right on the sand where they are vulnerable to predation and human activity. Most create a depression in the sand called a "scrape" (rather than a "nest"). The chicks are quite precocious, up and running shortly after hatching.

[FULL BIRD BLOG WITH PHOTOS](#)

### SIMILAR BIRDS

[Which Hawk is Which ?](#)

Similar Birds



Name that Bird

Here you will find photos (taken by local photographers) of birds that you can find in Sarasota County - that can be confusingly similar. Traits that will help you identify them will be noted. Click the caption to find the answer. Let's have some fun!

~Kath "Wren" Young, Education Chair Sarasota Audubon Society

**Discover Which is Which**



## May 18, 2018 A Mega Birding Day!

Ian Davies from Cornell Lab of Ornithology and 3 colleagues, along with local Canadian birders, spent 9 exhausting hours counting birds in Tadoussac, Quebec as they flew north across the St Lawrence River. Check out the eBird list [HERE](#) scrolling all the way down. Also, read the narrative box on the left by Ian for more insight. It's hard to imagine these mega numbers!



Just a few of the birds species sighted on May 28, 2018.  
Photos: Ian Davies Macaulay Library

## BIRD OF THE MONTH - Pink Robin

Yes, this bird is for real!

No, you won't find it at the Celery Fields.

This small, plump Australian robin has a lovely pink breast and belly.

You can read all about it  
[Here on eBird](#)





Pink Robin, *Petroica rodinogaster*

Photo: Deepak Kaara

## The Last Word is Graphic: Increasingly Confusing Fall Warblers...

### Increasingly Confusing Fall Warblers



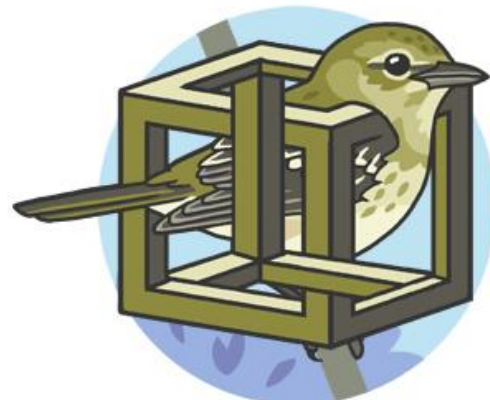
Bay-breasted or  
Blackpoll



Bay-breasted or Blackpoll or  
Canada or Ovenbird



Duck or Rabbit



Sibley's Impossibility Cube



SARASOTA  
AUDUBON SOCIETY

999 Center Road  
Sarasota, FL 34240  
941-312-6533

**Contact the Editor**