**AT THE NATURE CENTER**

**BASIC WILDLIFE RESCUE WORKSHOP**
Sat., Jan. 20th  9 am at the Nature Center.  Donation requested to benefit Wildlife Rescue of SW Florida.  Wildlife rescuers will demonstrate basic rescue protocols & what we can do to help injured wildlife.

**MEMBER ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION - February**
Month-long display of members’ art and photography.  Opening reception: Sat. Feb. 3 4-6 pm at the Nature Center.  Refreshments.  Questions?  sas.art.committee@gmail.com

**BEACH NESTING MONITORING WORKSHOP**
Tues. March 26  1:30 pm at the Nature Center  $5 donation
Join a beach nesting expert who explains why we monitor for vulnerable shorebirds and what you can do to help make their nesting season successful.

**EARTH DAY**
Join us Sat. April 20, from 9 am-3 pm for Celery Fields nature walks, talks, displays, kids’ activities and more!  Check out our website for times/events.

**PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS OF ALL OUR ACTIVITIES!**

**SCHEDULE 2023 / 2024**

**Dedicated to the protection, conservation and enjoyment of birds and wildlife.**

**MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAMS**

Meetings/Programs: All meetings available through ZOOM only. Sign up on the website. Time: 7:00pm

Oct. 9  Dave Tomasko, Ph.D  Executive Director of Sarasota Bay Estuary Program “Protecting the Bay and its Natural Resources.”

Nov. 13  Dr. Mark Brazil, “Birds of Japan” ornithologist, natural historian, nature guide, and author noted for his work on East Asian birds.

Dec. 11  Rosemary Mosco, a prolific science writer and naturalist, will speak on “Finding Joy and Humor in Familiar Birds.”  Her cartoons grace our Brown Pelican!

Jan. 8  John McCarthy, VP for Regional History, Selby Gardens, will talk about Bertha Palmer and sons’ legacy including Myakka State Park and Celery Fields.

Feb. 12  Dr. Noah Charney, Assistant Professor of Conservation Biology, University of Maine, will talk about his fascinating new book These Trees Tell a Story: the Art of Reading Landscapes.

March 11  Tammy and David McQuade, “Birding Central America.” Florida-based national champion birders who run the SW Florida Bird Alert Facebook group and serve the American Birding Association.

April 8  Melissa Abdo, Sun Coast Regional Director for National Parks Conservation Association, will update us on overseeing national park & preserve protection efforts.

May 13  Miri Hardy  Executive Director, Friends of Myakka River State Park, will discuss this popular park’s fragile ecosystems using evocative photographs and storytelling.

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**BIG SIT**: Sunday, Oct. 8  Join SAS members to count birds from a 17-foot circle.  Contact Stu Wilson stu299@gmail.com


**MYAKKA RIVER SP CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT**: Monday, Dec. 18  Belinda Perry bperry51@verizon.net

**SAS CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT**: Saturday, Dec. 30  Aaron Virgin eastendbirder@gmail.com

**EAGLE NEST TOURS**: Feb. 10 and 17  8 am-noon.  Join a Bald Eagle specialist to see several nests and eaglets.  Bring your own binoculars.  Meet at Nature Center.  $50  Reservations required.  Register at Sarasotaaudubon.org Questions?  Jane Rufo  eaglesnesttourschair@sarasotaaudubon.org

**CAREFREE LEARNER**: Boat tours to Roberts Bay Rookery  Mon. Mar. 18 and Wed. Mar. 27, 11:30 am-1:30 pm  $30  Reservations required.  For more information and registration:  www.sarasotaaudubon.org

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**SAS NATURE CENTER**:  Open every day, Oct. 1- May 31, 9 am to 12 pm.  Open until 3 pm on weekends, Jan. 6- April 14.  Displays, kids’ corner, information, gift shop, native plant gardens, feeders, butterflies, gazebo, etc.

**BOARDWALKS**:  Palmer Blvd and Raymond Rd boardwalks: a SAS Bird Naturalist is on duty every day, 8:30-10:30am, Oct. 1- May 31.

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ACTIVITIES AT THE CELERY FIELDS

Celery Fields Walks
All walks meet at the Nature Center unless otherwise indicated.

First Mondays  Feb. 5, Mar. 4, Apr 1;  2 pm; Margi Haas (mhaas@pipeline.com)

Second Mondays  Jan. 8, Feb. 12, Mar. 11, Apr. 8;  8 am; Peter Brown (207-994-9885). Meet at Raymond Rd. boardwalk.

Third Thursdays  Jan. 18,  Feb.15, Mar. 21;  8 am; SAS Survey Team (lynn234@verizon.net)

Fourth Thursdays Educational Walks  Nov. 23, Dec. 28, Jan. 25, Feb. 22, Mar. 28;  8 am; Peter Brown (207-994-9885)

Fourth Saturdays  Jan. 27, Feb. 24, Mar. 23, Apr. 27;  8 am; Peter Brown (207-994-9885)

Additional Afternoon Walks  Jan. 24, Feb. 28;  3 pm; Survey Team (lynn234@verizon.net)

Members Meet and Greet: A way for our members to see each other face to face! Meet your board members and enjoy a short presentation by a local environmentalist. Light refreshments.
Nov. 15;  Jan. 17;  Mar. 20.  2-3:30 pm at the Nature Center

Purple Martins: Thursdays and Sundays: March-June at 10 am. Join us when we take down the houses to count eggs, baby birds, and do nest maintenance. (Weather dependent) Questions? Call the Nature Center at 941-312-6533

WINGSPAN: Join us at the Nature Center. 12:30 pm. Learn about birds and their habitats, food, nests, etc. while playing a competitive game. Oct. 4 &18;  Nov. 1 & 18;  Dec. 6 & 20; Jan. 3 & 19;  Feb. 7 & 21;  Mar. 6 & 22; Apr. 3 & 17;  May 1 & 15. RSVP to Lynn Jakubowicz (lynn234@verizon.net)

CELEERY FIELDS CLEANUPS: Help keep our area garbage free!  9 am  Nov. 9,  Dec. 7,  Jan. 18,  Feb. 22.  Frank Yarosh (fyarosh941@aol.com)

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OTHER GUIDED WALKS

Oscar Scherer State Park  3rd and 4th Thursdays Nov.-Mar.  8:30 am. Peter Brown (207-994-9885)

Bay Street Park  Oct. 18;  8 am. John Groskopf (941-726-8816)

Pinecraft Park  Oct. 26;  9 am. John Groskopf (941-726-8816)

Nathan Benderson Park ADA walk  Nov. 1;  8 am. Helen King (850-556-2950)

Longboat Key Shorebirds  Nov. 5;  8 am. Stu Wilson (512-897-8341)

Nathan Benderson Park Nov. 9;  8 am. Peter Brown (207-994-9885)

Siesta Key Shorebirds Nov. 14;  8 am. Mary Heinlen (lagoonview@aol.com)

Myakka River State Park Nov. 29;  8:15 am. Stu Wilson (512-897-8341)

N. Lido Beach and Woods Dec. 28;  8 am. Stu Wilson (512-897-8341)

Lakeview Park Jan. 10;  8 am. Lynn Jakubowicz (lynn234@verizon.net)

Ollie’s Pond Park  Jan. 23;  8 am. Helen King (850-556-2950)

Siesta Key Shorebirds  Feb. 6;  8 am. Mary Heinlen (lagoonview@aol.com)

Red Bug Slough  Feb. 14;  8 am. SAS Survey Team (lynn234@verizon.net)

Myakka Bridge/Crowley Nature Center  Mar. 1;  7:30 am. Sharon Wilcox (swilcox@fastmail.fm)

Beginning Birder Siesta Key Shorebirds  Mar. 8;  8 am. Peter Brown (207-994-9885)

Old Miakka Preserve  Mar. 12;  8 am. Helen King (850-556-2950)

Babcock Webb WMA  Mar. 20;  8 am. Peter Brown (207-994-9885)

Carlton Reserve Backcountry Car Trip  Mar. 30 and Apr. 27. Meet at 7:15 am in parking area. Advance registration required due to space/car limitations. Contact Karen at sascarltontrip@gmail.com

N. Longboat/Leffis Key  Apr.17;  8 am. Stu Wilson (512-897-8341)

Glebe Park  Apr. 24;  8 am. John Groskopf (941-726-8816)

Pinecraft Park May 3;  9 am. John Groskopf (941-726-8816)