

Apalachee Audubon

The Newsletter of the Apalachee Audubon Society, Inc.

Vol. 108, No. 4

January 2010

www.apalachee.org

JANUARY PROGRAM SPEAKER: JIM COX

Pine-Grassland Bird Conservation

Is It Time To Drop Your Binoculars And Pick Up A Gun?

Thursday, January 28th, 918 Railroad Avenue

Social at 7:00 p.m. Program 7:30 p.m.

Pine-grassland birds are experiencing steep population declines. Management for this group of birds that includes Henslow's Sparrow, Bachman's Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, and many other species often overlaps with management for the Bobwhite Quail, a favorite game species.

Recent programs focused on Bobwhite Quail conservation have touted the benefits that quail management might provide these other species, but efforts to date may not be living

up to the promise. This presentation addresses the positives and negatives associated with a quail-centric approach and discusses the importance of a balanced, ecosystem-approach to land management.

Jim Cox is a biologist with Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy. He works primarily with Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, Bachman's Sparrows, Brown-headed Nuthatches, and other pineland songbirds.



Bobwhite Quail

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message	2
Bird Bits: Wayward Geese	3
Great Backyard Bird Count	4-5
AAS Receives Grant for Garden	4
Request for Award Nominations	4
Hands Across The Sands Rally	5
Birding in a Foreign Country	6
Operation Migration Update	6
Florida Springs Rally	7

UPCOMING AAS BIRDING FIELD TRIPS

Bird Banding at Tall Timbers

Saturday, January 23rd, 7:30 - 11:00 a.m.

(This event will be cancelled if it rains.)

Hosted by: Jim Cox

Skill Level: Easy. Short walk along a trail to the banding site.

Cost: Free, but donations to the bird program are welcome.

Description: Nets will be set up along the Henry Stevenson bird trail at 7:30 am. People can stop by to see what has been netted anytime that morning before the nets are taken down around 11:00. Drive to Tall Timbers and look for the signs to the bird trail. People can also watch from the bird window overlooking Gannet Pond.

What to bring: Water, appropriate dress for the weather, binoculars, camera.

Jim Cox is a biologist with Tall Timbers.

Birding at Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park

Saturday, January 30st, 8:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Hosted by: Andy and Julie Wraithmell

Skill Level: Mile plus of easy walking on unpaved paths.

Cost: \$6/car up to 8 people. Family pass holders, free entrance for carload up to 6. Individual pass holders, free

entrance for pass holder, admission for each passenger without a pass, \$2. Bicycle and pedestrian entry is \$2 per person.

Description: Meet at the Maclay Recreation Area parking lot at 8:15 a.m. for a guided birdwalk of the park by Ranger Andy Wraithmell. We will look for regular winter vagrants like Dark-eyed Juncos, Golden-crowned Kinglets, Brown Creepers and Winter Wrens, as well as more familiar winter visitors.

The group will also walk the park's rustic trail to Lake Overstreet to view the more than 1,000 Ring-necked and other ducks that winter on the lake, with a chance of witnessing the spectacle of the park's resident bald eagles hazing the ducks on the lake.

What to bring: Water, comfortable shoes, hat, appropriate dress for the weather, sunscreen, binoculars, camera.

Andy Wraithmell is a park ranger at Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park. He's previously worked as a Sea Watch counter and shorebird technician at Cape May Bird Observatory in New Jersey and was assistant warden for three years at Dungeness Bird Observatory in Southeast England.

Julie Wraithmell coordinates wildlife policy for Audubon of Florida in Tallahassee, and previously created the Great Florida Birding Trail for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

BECOME A MEMBER

Join National Audubon Society and Apalachee Audubon!

For just \$20 a year you can be a member of both National Audubon and our local Apalachee Audubon chapter. Your membership will include *Audubon*, our bimonthly flagship publication. Each issue of this award-winning publication features beautiful photography and provocative journalism. Our chapter newsletter will keep you informed of local and statewide Audubon and other nature-related events.

You can pay for membership using a credit card by calling Audubon's toll free membership number. *(Please mention our chapter ID E-19 for us to get full credit for a new membership).*

1-800-274-4201

If you prefer to pay by check for an annual membership, send your \$20 check made payable to National Audubon Society and mail to:

National Audubon Society
PO Box 422246
Palm Coast, FL 32142-2246

Allow 4-6 weeks for arrival of your first issue of *Audubon*. The cost of membership is tax deductible except for \$7.50 (which is allocated to *Audubon* magazine).

Apalachee Audubon Society (AAS) 2009 – 2010 Officers and Board Members

President:	Ed Gartner	(850) 386-6543
Vice President:	Harry Hooper	(850) 668-0498
Secretary:	Lynn Reynolds	(850) 421-1074
Treasurer:	Harvey Goldman	(850) 385-5222

Directors:

Ben Fusaro	(850) 297-2052	<i>(Past President)</i>
Jan Bordelon	(850) 942-8078	
Chris Borg	(850) 893-4153	
Ann Bruce	(850) 224-4760	
Melissa Forehand	(850) 510-4877	
Karen Wensing	(850) 386-7766	

Newsletter Editor: Kathleen Carr (850) 322-7910
Newsletter is published 8 times yearly
(Sept.-May, except December).

Webmaster: John Boutelle (850) 656-3346

Apalachee Audubon Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 1237
Tallahassee, FL 32303
www.apalachee.org

AAS is a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization. All contributions are tax deductible. Inquiries can also be sent to 76 Dogwood Forest Rd., Crawfordville, FL 32327-0588.

Mission Statement: Protection of the environment through education, appreciation, and conservation.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Ed Gartner

The following conclusions are based on my own industrial experience, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Audubon or its members.

Batteries store electricity or make it from non-renewable materials. This is a losing situation. "Mass-Energy can neither be created nor destroyed." Only transformed.

Each change of type of energy is less than 100% efficient. In a typical situation in which car batteries are plugged into a power source, coal, oil or gas is burned as a first step.

This chemical reaction produces heat, which turns a turbine. The turbine produces electricity which is transported to an outlet. Energy is lost during transportation of the electricity. The electricity creates a chemical change in charging a battery, which is used to return to mechanical energy to move the car.

We then have: chemical reaction to heat mechanical to electrical to chemical to electrical to mechanical to move the car. Each transformation of types of energy has a cost of inefficiency—nothing is 100% efficient. It would be more efficient to burn the fuel directly in the car, thus eliminating four steps. Not counting the steps and materials used to make the batteries in the first place.

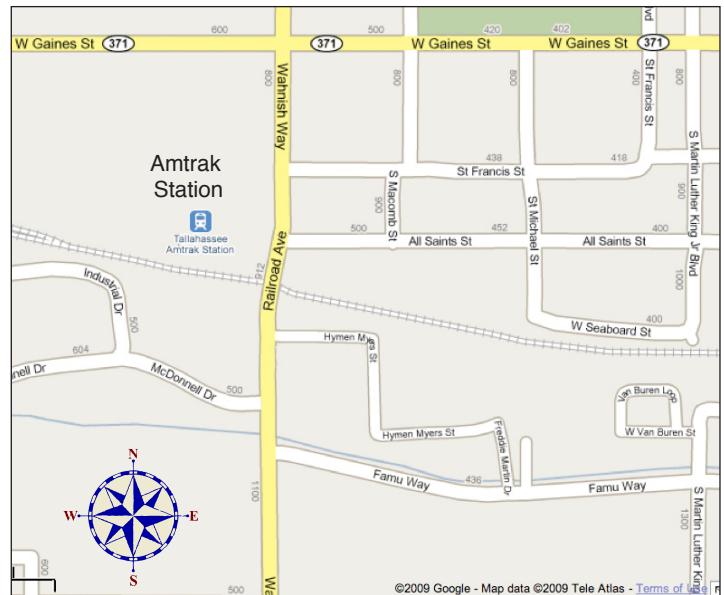
REALITIES

Bad information is worse than no information at all.

AAS PROGRAM MEETING LOCATION

Historic Amtrak Station
918 Railroad Avenue
Tallahassee, Florida

Note: A reminder that Gaines Street is undergoing construction and portions of the road will be closed between 7:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. Please allow extra time for potential detours.

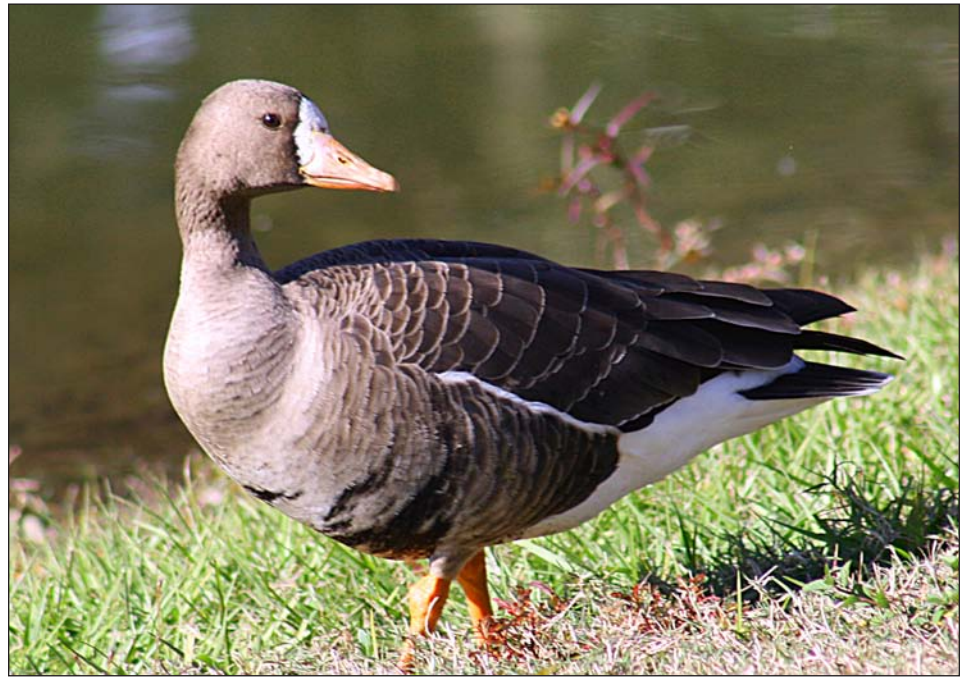


BIRD BITS: WAYWARD GEESE *by Harry Hooper*

AAS board member Melissa Forehand reported last November that she had observed a pair of Greater White-fronted Geese at a pond in Southwood on the southeast side of Tallahassee. Since these geese were mingling with Canada geese that explored the lakes and farm fields around Southwood for good foraging sites, it generally took birders more than one trip to add this species to their Florida list. Our last visit to Southwood in December not only produced the greater white-fronted geese foraging with the Canada, but we added a single white-phased Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) to the mix.

Greater white-fronted geese breed on the tundra and taiga from Alaska east to Greenland and parts of Eurasia. Wintering grounds for the Alaskan/Canadian population include coastal marshes, inland wetlands and agricultural fields from southern Louisiana west through southeast and South Central Texas, northern Mexico, and California north through Washington. The species is rarely observed east of the Mississippi River. The goose was first documented in Florida in 1939 at the St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge by field ornithologist Herbert L. Stoddard, Sr. (*The Birdlife of Florida*, 1994, Henry M. Stevenson and Bruce H. Anderson). The species is considered a rare to fairly common winter resident in Florida (October-March) with 50 reports documented through 1992. Isolated sightings have increased statewide in recent years.

This beautiful bird with a bright pink to orange bill and bright orange legs has an overall brownish gray plumage with a thin white streak on its flank. A large patch of white feathers separates the top of the head from the base of the bill. Thick black streaks contrast on the light gray belly. The greater white-fronted bears a resemblance to the "barnyard" goose, a grayish brown bird with an



Greater White-fronted Goose (Anser albifrons) Photo by Harry Hooper

orange bill that is the domesticated version of the Graylag Goose of Europe.

The Greater White-fronted Goose is smaller than our local Canada Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*). Depending on the subspecies, Canada average 6.5 to 9.75 pounds. Greater white-fronted average 4 to 6.5 pounds. During the winter months, Greater White-fronted generally associate with Snow and Canada geese.

Attempting to separate the subspecies or races of this goose is difficult. Three of the five races breed in North America.

The Southwood birds appear to have bright orange bills, a field mark for the Greenland race. Small groups of this race at times migrate with wild Canada geese southward along the eastern seaboard of the U.S. Take a drive around the lakes at Southwood and look for a small group of Canada geese. Scan these geese closely and look for smaller birds with different markings. Remember to enjoy these beautiful wild birds at a distance that is comfortable for the birds, not for the observer.

2010 AAS Program Speakers & Topics

January 28	Jim Cox, <i>Hunting & Conservation</i> (Tall Timbers)
February 25	Sandy Beck, <i>Owls</i> (St. Francis Wildlife)
March 25	Donna Legare, <i>Planting for Wildlife</i> (Native Nurseries)
April 22	Fritz Davis, <i>Get the Facts and then Act: How Marjorie Harris Carr and the Florida Defenders of the Environment Stopped the Cross Florida Barge Canal</i> (Florida State University)
May 27	Annual Banquet Dana Bryan, <i>Limpkins</i> (FL-Dept. of Environmental Protection)

2010 GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT EVENTS IN TALLAHASSEE

GBBC at the Home of Fran & Paul Rutkovsky

When: Saturday, February 13, 2010
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Where: 3210 Brookforest Dr. (off Lakeshore Drive)

Cost: Free

Description: This coincides with the Great Backyard Bird Count weekend. **Fran Rutkovsky, Ed Gartner** and other participants will be counting the birds at the feeders as well as up in the trees, in the ravine and yard, and surrounding area. In past winters, birds seen here have included Baltimore and Bullock's Orioles, Western and Summer Tanagers, and various hummingbird species.

Fran has participated in the Great Backyard Bird Count since its beginning and is also in her 10th year counting for Project FeederWatch.

Come directly to the house and park on the street. If you want to carpool, please arrange that separately. The counting will take place from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., but participants are welcome to bring their lunch and stay later, if we're seeing a lot of birds.

Climbing stairs to the deck is necessary. All levels of birding skills are welcome. Bring your binoculars and bird guide.

Dress for the weather, as this will be outside, though cover will be available during part of it. Contact Fran at franrutkovsky@comcast.net or call her at (850) 422-3636.

GBBC at Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park

When: Sunday, February 14, 2010
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Where: Meet at the Recreation Area parking lot

Cost: Park Admission (see page 1 field trip for details)

On February 14th (Valentine's Day...Feel the Love!) between 8:00 a.m. and noon, Park Rangers **Dave Garcia** and **Andy Wraithmell** will be hosting our annual Great Backyard Bird Count event.

We are going to split into four teams each with two leaders and cover four sections of the park, namely the recreation area, the gardens, Lake Overstreet trail and the ravine trail. The park is a great place to see a lot of great birds such as the Dark-eyed Junco, Brown Creeper, Winter Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Wild Turkey, Bald Eagle, Ring-necked Ducks, Great Horned Owls....the list goes on.

This is a great opportunity to have fun and take part in some citizen science. We will meet at the Recreation Area picnic pavilion at 8:00 a.m. and split into groups and have at it!

At noon, there will be drinks and sugar-loaded snacks (brownies, cookies and the like) back at the picnic shelter. Afterwards all participants will be invited to bird within the park at their own leisure or join a ranger for an afternoon historic gardens tour and visit of the Maclay House.

All we ask for in return, apart from your bird-spotting skills, is \$6 per vehicle or an annual pass to gain entry.

AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Every year there are numerous individuals within our organization, or within our goals, who deserve special recognition. A few are nominated to receive public notice, and you, our readers, can point these people out to our Awards Committee, this year led by member **Peter Kelly**. If you would like to nominate someone, please contact an AAS board member. Contact information is on the masthead on page 2 and the AAS web site.

APALACHEE AUDUBON SOCIETY RECEIVES GRANT

In early December 2009, AAS received notification that our application for a grant from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation had been approved. This means that nearly \$5,000 will be made available for the pollinator garden plantings and related educational projects at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge.

We are excited about this opportunity and eager to receive the details of the grant agreement from NFWF official Essence Morris. Our garden committee will then meet to plan Phase Two of the project. There will be springtime improvements to the current garden area and new border plantings at Picnic Pond and the Lighthouse Levee Trail. We know many of you are excellent gardeners who will want to join us in this worthwhile project. Information about how you can help will be in our next newsletter, so stay tuned.

NATIVE NURSERIES

The Store for Nature Lovers
For Over 30 Years

Native Plants • Wildlife Gardening • Herbs
Wild Bird Shop • Organic Gardening Supplies



850-386-8882
1661 Centerville Road
Tallahassee, FL 32308
www.nativenurseries.com

COUNT FOR FUN, COUNT FOR THE FUTURE! BY FRAN RUTKOVSKY

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT, FEBRUARY 12-15, 2010

A Joint Project of Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society

www.birdsource.org/gbbc

The Great Backyard Bird Count is an annual four-day event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of where the birds are across the continent and in Hawaii. Anyone can participate, from beginning bird watchers to experts. It takes as little as 15 minutes on one day, or you can count for as long as you like each day of the event. It's free, fun, and easy-and it helps the birds.

All are welcome to take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count, from novice bird watchers to experts. Participants count birds for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as they wish) on one or more days of the event and report their sightings online. Watch the real-time maps and charts grow as participants enter their data. Click on "Explore the Results" to check out the Top Ten Lists, State Tallies (and cities within the states), etc. Last year Tallahassee was #3 **NATIONALLY** in number of checklists submitted. Can we do it again?

Submit separate checklists for each location where you count, on any or all four days. During last year's count, participants turned in more than 93,600 checklists online, creating the continent's largest instantaneous snapshot of bird populations ever recorded.

You're also encouraged to submit photographs taken during the four-day count period. Local AAS member, **Glenda Simmons**, had a winning photograph in the "Overall" category. This is quite an achievement considering the almost 6,000 entries. Congratulations, Glenda! Her beautiful photograph of a bluebird is featured on our AAS web site. You can see an album in the GBBC photo gallery showing all the winners, finalists, and honorable mentions at: www.birdsource.org/gbbc/gallery.

As an added bonus, we have this message from **Mary Huggins** and **Susan Teisciero**, owners of Wild Birds Unlimited:

"If someone would like us to input their count (if they don't have a computer), they can bring it in or mail it to us, and I will put it in. We also give a coupon for participating. Just bring in your count sheets for each day that you participated and we give you 5% for each day...up to a 20% off coupon."

Their store is located at 1505-2 Governor's Square Blvd., Tallahassee and you can reach them at (850) 576-0002.



Wild Birds Unlimited



**Everything for the birds
and the serious birder!**

NATURE GIFTS
OPTICS ~ FIELD GUIDES ~ FEEDERS
BIRDBATHS ~ SEED ~ NEST BOXES

1505-2 Governor's Square Blvd.
(850) 576-0002

Tallahassee, FL 32301
tallahassee.wbu.com

RALLY TO PROTECT FLORIDA WATERS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2010
www.HandsAcrossTheSand.com

In the near future the citizens of Florida will have an opportunity to show their opposition to oil drilling as close as 3 to 10 miles off our coast. This movement will be made of people of all walks of life and will cross political affiliations. This movement is not about politics; it is about protection of our shoreline, our tourism, our valuable properties and our way of life. Let us share our knowledge, energies and passion for protecting our waterways and beaches from the devastating effects of oil drilling.

Join Hands Across the Sand on February 13th for a rally in Tallahassee to tell legislators that drilling on Florida's coast is non-productive and should not be allowed within Florida controlled waters. Check the web site for specifics about time and location, or contact **Bob Henderson**, (850) 575-6610 or email him at bob@rkhenderson.com.

Hands Across The Sand is devoted to protecting our coastline and waterways from the devastating environmental effects of oil exploration and support industries

For up-to-date notifications of upcoming Apalachee Audubon activities, join the AAS email list at:
www.groups.google.com/group/apalachee-audubon

*You do not need to join Google Groups
to receive these mailings.*

BIRDING IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY *by Carolyn Smith*

On a recent trip to Helsinki, Finland, I decided that I should plan to do some birding in the area. While doing a little internet research on Birds of Finland I came upon a birding site called birdingpal.com. I decided to look it up and find out what it was all about. Once at the site you click on a country and you are given a list of local birders who are willing to give you information and sometimes accompany you on a birding trip. The list gave a little about each of the people on the list for Helsinki, including what languages they spoke fluently. I selected several persons listed to email.

The email is delivered through the site, so the email addresses are kept confidential until the birding pal responds to your email. I emailed three people and received two responses. Both were fluent in English which made our communications very easy. After exchanging several emails, both birders agreed to meet me at my hotel and take me with them to a favorite birding spot. I met each of them after their work day

around 4:00 p.m. Additionally I went birding on my own one afternoon in a nearby park recommended by one of my birding pals.

Unfortunately the majority of passerines had already come through the area, so there were not many birds present—except the year round residents. I did however go to some wonderful birding sites that I know would be full of birds in either fall or spring. I had two wonderful hosts. Anissi, a native Finlander had been a birder since he was six years old and had a life list of over 4,000 birds. Since he worked for the government and had held several positions at Finnish embassies around the world, he'd had excellent opportunities to add birds from other countries to his list. My other host was Ben, a native from England who was a recent transplant to Finland. Ben had also been an avid birder in England. An added bonus to my bird watching was the opportunity to learn more about the Finnish culture from my two hosts.

At the end of each afternoon with my hosts (around 8:00 p.m.), they would escort me back to my hotel. Neither of my pals had cars, so we took mass transit (which is wonderful in Helsinki) both to and from our destinations. Though it had seemed like we were in the middle of the forest both days, we were actually only minutes from downtown Helsinki. After all was said and done, I had added fourteen new birds to my life list including: Coal Tit, Blue Tit, Great Tit, Hooded Crow, Common Wood Pigeon, Bean Goose, Barnacle Goose, Goosander, Northern Lapwing, European Robin, Grey Heron, Field Fare, Tree Pipit and Great Crested Grebe.

Not only do I highly recommend using birdingpal.com for any future trips you may be planning, but I would encourage anyone who enjoys birding and meeting people, to sign up to be a birding pal. I checked the US site, and the number of people signed up to be hosts was far fewer than in Europe.

Happy Birding – wherever you are!

OPERATION MIGRATION 2009 UPDATE *BY KATHLEEN CARR*

By the time you read this, the 20 Whooping Cranes in the Class of 2009 will have been escorted to their two respective destinations, St. Marks and Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuges—hopefully without incident.

Here's the latest location information about the St. Marks members of the Class of 2008.

805	Columbia Co. WI	Dec. 10
812	Columbia Co. WI	Dec. 10
813*	Sauk Co. WI	Dec. 10
826	Deceased	
828	Meigs Co. TN	Jan. 9
829	Alachua Co. FL	Jan. 9
830*	Citrus Co. FL	Jan. 9

It's not been an easy year for Operation Migration (OM). There have been numerous mechanical problems along the migration route and on November 20, 2009, the OM hangar in Necedah, Wisconsin was vandalized and robbed.

Later that month, an OM-raised female whooper, 217, was shot and killed in Indiana. The First Family matriarch, she

and mate 211 were the first (and so far only) Whooping Cranes in the Eastern Migratory Population who have successfully reared young in the wild.

Catch up and keep up with the latest OM news online at the St. Marks Refuge Association web site:

www.stmarksrefuge.org/cranes.cfm

or at the Operation Migration Field Journal:

www.operationmigration.org/Field_Journal.html



Massage Therapist
Melissa Forehand

CranioSacral, Relaxation & Therapeutic

**1102 Hays St.
Tallahassee, FL 32301**

**850-510-4877
License #MA31638**



Florida Springs Rally

johnmoranphoto.com

Are you saddened that Florida's springs are becoming polluted and losing their flow? Have you wanted to do something meaningful to help save them? This is a way for you to make a difference.

Legislation to protect Florida's springs was introduced but failed to pass in each of the last five legislative sessions. This was due, in part, to inadequate public support for meaningful protection. In order to demonstrate public concern for the health of Florida's springs and support for significant regulatory protection, a special event will be held at the Capitol during a Legislative committee week Tuesday, February 16, 2010.

The event will begin with a **Run for Wakulla Spring**. Local youth will collect a bottle of water from Wakulla Spring and deliver the water by relay runners from the spring 16 miles to the Capitol. They will arrive at the Capitol at 12:00 noon for the start of the Florida Springs Rally. Their message will be: "**Save Wakulla Spring for the Next Generation.**"

The **Florida Springs Rally** will be attended by delegations of citizens from the major springs and cities in north and central Florida. Prior to the rally, delegates will ask their legislators to attend the rally and meet with them at their Capitol offices. Their message will be "**Real Legislative Protection in 2010.**"

The event is sponsored by:

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs
1000 Friends of Florida
Audubon of Florida
Florida Wildlife Federation
Florida Sierra Club
Florida Defenders of the Environment
The Nature Conservancy
Save the Manatee Club
North Florida Springs Alliance
Global Underwater Explorers

Friends of Wakulla Spring
Friends of Wekiva River
Save Our Suwannee
Rainbow River Conservation
Homosassa River Alliance
Friends of Lower Suwannee River
St Johns Riverkeeper
Apalachicola Riverkeeper
Our Santa Fe River
Putnam Co. Environmental Council

For further information contact:

(850) 556-3072

florida_springs@comcast.net

Apalachee Audubon
P.O. Box 1237
Tallahassee, FL 32302-1237

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 30

**2010 THURSDAY
PROGRAM DATES**

- January 28
- February 25
- March 25
- April 22
- May 27

Your membership expiration date is shown at top right above your name. For problems with membership, call the National Audubon Society Office at 1-800-274-4201. For problems with mailings, contact Pam Flynn at pflynn@us.ibm.com.

APALACHEE AUDUBON SOCIETY CALENDAR: JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2010

Note: A reminder that Gaines Street is undergoing construction and portions of the road will be closed after 7:00 p.m.

Social begins at 7:00, meeting at 7:30 p.m. Located at the historic Amtrak Station, 918 Railroad Avenue—map on page 2. For more information, call (850)510-4877 or visit: www.apalachee.org

Chapter/Audubon Events

January

- 23 Bird Banding at Tall Timbers:** Observe bird banding and enjoy casual birding. *Details, page 1*
- 28 Program Meeting:** Jim Cox from the Tall Timbers Research Station will talk about how conservation for game birds benefits other bird species. *Details, page 1*
- 30 Birding at Maclay Gardens State Park:** Guided walk of the park's favorite hangouts for overwintering birds. *Details, page 1*

February

- 13-15 Great Backyard Bird Count:** ID and count birds in your own yard, a park, retention pond, or join other Audubon members at Fran Rutkovsky's or the staff at Maclay Gardens for a group counting effort.
- 20 Backyard Wildlife Tour:** Backyard Wildlife Tour fund raiser at selected Tallahassee home sites.

Related Events

February

- 4 Tallahassee Scientific Society Lecture:** R.A. Gray Auditorium, 500 S. Bronough. At 7:00 p.m. **Cynthia Barnett**, writer for Florida Trend and author will present "Blue is the New Green: Water Sustainability and the Future of Florida."
- 6 4th Annual Wildlife Heritage & Outdoor Festival** St. Marks NWR, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Regular admission fees apply.
- 13 Hands Across the Sand Rally:** Join Hands Across the Sand for a rally in Tallahassee to tell legislators that drilling on Florida's coast is non-productive and should not be allowed within Florida controlled waters. *Details, page 5*
- 16 Florida Springs Rally:** A special event that will be held at the Capitol during a Legislative committee week. *Details, page 7*

See page 3 for upcoming program speakers and topics.

Page 1 photo, Bobwhite Quail, courtesy of Wikipedia