

APALACHEE AUDUBON SOCIETY



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

NEWSLETTER OF THE APALACHEE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

SUMMER 2015

Editor's Note – from Suzanna MacIntosh

We hope you'll enjoy the summer newsletter. This issue includes some of our members favorite books and favorite places in Florida and nearby Georgia. The books and places included are part of a continuing series; we will feature more in coming newsletters. If you have a special place you would like to see featured, please let us know at aasnewsletter2011-audubon@yahoo.com.

Thank you to everyone who has generously taken the time to write articles and share photographs for the newsletters; without your help the newsletter would not be possible. Special thanks to Karen Willes for her terrific help proofing the newsletter and to Kathleen Carr for her behind the scenes work with the website and social media sites. Many thanks to Ed Nix at U Save Printing and to Mike and Elizabeth Beauchamp at Modern Mailers, www.modernmailersfl.com, for their great help with our September calendar mailing and the spring Banquet invitations. Thanks again to our great friends at Native Nurseries, www.nativenurseries.com, and Wild Birds Unlimited, tallahassee.wbu.com, for their chapter support and help all year long in so many ways.

Thank you for reading the newsletter. Your interest, support, and involvement in the Apalachee Audubon Society helps enrich all our lives as we work together to help preserve, protect and appreciate our natural environment. We hope you have a great summer!

Some Favorite Places!

Here are some favorite places featured in previous newsletters.



Birdsong Nature Center is the living legacy of Ed and Betty Komarek. The mission of Birdsong Nature Center is to foster awareness, understanding, and appreciation of nature and its interrelationships. To learn more, see www.birdsongnaturecenter.org.



Gulf Specimen Marine Lab at Panacea - Giving people an appreciation for the diversity of life in the sea and a desire to protect it is Gulf Specimen's primary mission. Their special "hands-on" approach enables students of all ages to touch, smell and hear the odd and interesting creatures of the Gulf of Mexico and to develop an awareness and desire to protect the fragile life in the sea. To learn more, please see www.gulfspecimen.org. *Photo courtesy of Gulf Specimen Marine Lab.*



The LeMoyne Center for the Visual Arts – Art has always been important to the Audubon movement and so it is little wonder that over the years members of Apalachee Audubon have valued the great work that the LeMoyne Center for the Visual Arts does. Special thanks go to LeMoyne for helping make Apalachee Audubon's 50th Anniversary very special. To learn more, please see www.lemoyne.org. *Photo courtesy of the LeMoyne Center for the Visual Arts.*

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The Apalachee Audubon Society is established as a nonprofit corporation for the purposes of environmental education, the appreciation of wildlife and natural history, and the conservation of the environment and resources.

Apalachee Audubon Society, Inc.
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Apalachee Audubon Society, Inc. (AAS) is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. All memberships and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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Join National Audubon Society
for only \$20 a year
and enjoy free membership in Apalachee Audubon!

Membership includes *Audubon*, National Audubon's bimonthly flagship publication. Each issue of this award-winning publication features beautiful photography and engaging journalism. Our Apalachee Audubon Chapter newsletter will keep you informed of local and statewide Audubon and other nature-related events and will share birding and conservation information and news.

You can pay for membership using a credit card by calling Audubon's toll free membership number, 1-800-274-4201. **(Please mention our chapter ID, E19, so that Apalachee Audubon will get full credit for a membership.)** If you prefer to pay by check for an annual membership, send your \$20 check made payable to National Audubon Society **(please add Apalachee Audubon's chapter ID, E19)** and mail to:

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P. O. Box 422249
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Allow 4-6 weeks for the arrival of your first issue of *Audubon*. The cost of membership is tax deductible except for \$7.50 which is allocated to *Audubon* magazine.

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By having a reverence for life, we enter into a spiritual relationship with the world.
By practicing reverence for life we become good, deep, and alive. – Albert Schweitzer

You can sign up to receive the Apalachee Audubon newsletter and announcements of coming field trips and other events by joining our Google Groups email notification list at: <http://www.apalachee.org/aas/about/aas-mailing-list/>. See www.apalachee.org for more information.

We hope you'll join us on Facebook  and on Twitter 

Special thanks to our friends at Wild Birds Unlimited and at Native Nurseries
for their help and support throughout the year!

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Dr. Seán E. McGlynn
Photo by Nick Baldwin

President's Message
Dr. Seán E. McGlynn

As you may have heard, Budd Titlow has resigned and, as your elected Vice President, I will be your new Apalachee Audubon President. Budd was awarded a contract to write a book with his daughter on climate change. This contract is a dream come true, but it includes timelines and completion dates from the publisher. He resigned as president to devote his time to writing this book. He will still be involved with Apalachee Audubon; he just can't devote as much time this year to the presidency as he feels the office deserves. Congratulations to Budd on a great project.

I am looking forward to this coming year with a great Board and a great Chapter. We are indebted to our first AAS President, Dr. Huey B. Long, and to earlier presidents, board and chapter members. We will work to follow in their footsteps and be good stewards of the environment. Thank you to Dr. Long for all his contributions to our chapter and for sharing his photograph with us of a Belted Kingfisher which he took near his dock.

A primary emphasis of my presidency will be protecting conservation land. Our State Parks are currently among the best in the world. It needs to stay that way. Land designated for preservation is kept in a natural state, emulating conditions before human contact. Most of the land in Florida can be developed; people can make profits from the land, but park land is different and it is sacred. Floridians overwhelmingly amended our Constitution last year to guarantee the purchase and preservation of more public lands. Florida Forever will purchase more state land, but now unchecked greed is eating away at those lands from within. What we already own is in danger. Politicians are demanding that parks must pay for themselves. They have to make a profit! This is not preservation; it is development. Our State Parks need to be preserved for future generations. They need to be set aside and protected. Park lands are our work horse for keeping our water pure, climate cooler, protecting species, pollinators, etc. Our parks are not timber land, farm land or shooting ranges. Our State Parks are not for lumberjacks, livestock or hunting. They safeguard species diversity and must be preserved for future generations in our Florida, Forever.

Of great importance is improving water quality. Water is nature's life blood; it is essential for life; it needs to be pure; it needs to be clean. Every citizen, creature or plant has a right to clean water; clean rainwater, springs, rivers, lakes and oceans are a necessity. Our state is going through the TMDL and BMAP process. That lawsuit decided that the regulatory agencies are responsible for pollution. Chesapeake Bay and Wakulla Springs are being rejuvenated by this program. Pollution must vanish from the Florida Panhandle. Water quality needs to improve in our springs, lakes, rivers and seas.

Another goal is habitat restoration and encouraging sustainable development. Nature has evolved as very structured habitat over the ages; in a few short generations we have destroyed much and rebuilt little. Manatees need to be swimming in Wakulla Springs. Native plants, like milkweed, need to be reestablished. Monarch butterflies need to cloud our skies. Bald eagles and limpkins need to come back.

The Board and I hope you'll have a terrific summer and that you will enjoy the natural beauty of the Panhandle and of our great state. We look forward to seeing you in September.

Belted Kingfisher
Photo courtesy of Dr. Huey B. Long, AAS 1st President






Lichgate - Inspired to protect a beautiful centuries old oak and build her home nearby, Dr. Laura Pauline Jepsen purchased the oak and surrounding property and began building her English Tudor style cottage in 1956. Her desire was to “to conquer time, to preserve the essence of the past, and to escape into reality”. Today you can find Lichgate Cottage and see the Lichgate Oak on High Road in a beautiful three-acre setting. To learn more, see: www.lichgate.com.



Lost Creek Forest is an old growth hardwood slope forest near Thomasville, GA. It features massive white oak, swamp chestnut oak, beech, and spruce pine with beautiful mature forest and wetland ecosystems. Lost Creek Forest is a wonderful combination of slope forest, seeps, flood plain, creeks and several different ecosystems. See www.lostcreekforest.com.



Mission San Luis is the only reconstructed Spanish mission in Florida and it serves as not only an archeological and cultural site, it is a living museum dedicated to faithfully reflecting the native Apalachee and Spanish cultures that existed side by side in 1703. It is a National Historic Landmark and is managed by the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources. To learn more, see www.missionsanluis.org and . Photo by Roy Eugene Lett courtesy of State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory, <http://floridamemory.com/items/show/16978>.



Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park - When Alfred B. Maclay and his wife, Louise, purchased property in 1923 for their winter home in Tallahassee, Alfred Maclay named his gardens Killlearn. He developed them continuously throughout his life and in 1953, after his death, Mrs. Maclay and children donated the 307-acre gardens to the people of Florida. To learn more about this beautiful 1,176-acre State Park and botanical garden, see <http://friendsofmaclaygardens.org/> and <http://www.floridastateparks.org/park/Maclay-Gardens>. Photo courtesy Lou Kellenberger.



State Road 65 - The Florida Panhandle Wildflower Alliance is an informal network of regional wildflower enthusiasts who advocate for conservation of wildflowers in the state's Eastern Panhandle. Alliance members assist city, county and state agencies in identifying roadside wildflower areas and developing mowing schedules that allow native wildflowers to thrive, thus facilitating the development of roadsides into biological corridors, as along State Road 65. See <http://flawildflowertrips.org/> and <http://flawildflowers.org/fpwa.php>. Photo courtesy Eleanor Dietrich.



St. Marks NWR – “The refuge was established in 1931 to provide wintering habitat for migratory birds. It is one of the oldest refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System. It encompasses over 70,000 acres spread out between Wakulla, Jefferson, and Taylor counties, and includes about 43 miles along the Gulf Coast of northwest Florida.” To learn more, see http://www.fws.gov/refuge/St_Marks/about.html and the St. Marks Refuge Association, www.stmarksrefuge.org. Photo courtesy of Lou Kellenberger.



The **Tallahassee Museum** - Don't miss Jim Gary's amazing “Twentieth Century Dinosaurs” which are all created with automotive parts. Enjoy the living exhibits of native Florida wildlife, nature trails and gardens as you learn about North Florida's natural environment, rich history and diverse cultural communities. See www.tallahasseeuseum.org. Photo courtesy Nick Baldwin.



Viera Wetlands is part of a water reclamation facility managed by Brevard County that offers an exceptional wildlife viewing experience. Located conveniently off I-95, the 200 acres of wetlands are divided into 4 cells, each offering a different and unique environment for specific wildlife. You can drive throughout the cells and stop whenever you'd like. Photo courtesy Budd Titlow. See <http://www.brevardcounty.us/NaturalResources/EnvironmentalResources/VieraWetlands>.



Wakulla Springs has remained virtually unchanged over the past 10,000 years. As one of the largest and deepest freshwater springs in the world, Wakulla Springs is a natural treasure giving us a chance to connect to a timeless source and to glimpse a garden primeval. See www.wakullasprings.org and <http://www.floridastateparks.org/park/Wakulla-Springs>. Photo courtesy of Glenda Simmons.

Special thanks to guest columnist David Jensen and to the Mendocino Coast Audubon Society for sharing this with us.

A BIRDER'S LAMENT

By David Jensen

*2015-2017 President of the Mendocino Coast Audubon Society
Audubon California Board of Directors*



Least Tern

Courtesy of D. S. Kilby

I have a couple of confessions to make.

True Confession Number 1: I've never really cared for the National Audubon Society. I'm sorry, but it is true. You see, I have always had a love for birds, even as a boy. When I began to get serious about studying birds over 30 years ago, I joined the National Audubon Society to learn all I could. I faithfully read each copy of their magazine but soon realized they wanted to talk about habitat and conservation, not feather patterns and field notes. I didn't care about grasslands in the Dakotas or swamps in the Carolinas, so I threw their renewal notices in the trash and instead joined what might be called a birding club. I enjoyed birds and wanted to be the best birder I could be.

True Confession Number 2: I didn't miss being part of Audubon for over 30 years. I was happy watching the birds in my back yard. I studied bird songs. I visited the birding hotspots. I joined lots of Christmas Bird Counts. I slowly developed a set of skills and a modest life list. Birding was a personal pleasure for me, devoid of politics and conflict. Meanwhile, grasslands were converted to housing tracts, marshes turned to shopping malls, and the birds became scarcer and scarcer. Still, I enjoyed birds and simply wanted to be the best birder I could be.

True Confession Number 3: I may have learned how to identify many birds with only the slightest glimpse of feather, beat of wing or phrase of song, but I have not been a very good birder. Good birders truly care about the future of the species they enjoy and act to ensure that all birds are protected. Good birders speak out and support efforts to preserve habitats that are necessary for avian survival. Good birders not only enjoy the beauty of wild birds, but repay them with time, talent and treasure. A selfish birder will never be the best birder possible.

So please join with me and all the best birders around. Help save what we have left so that there is something to leave for future generations. You don't need to write a big check. You don't need to quit your day job. You don't even need to put a bumper sticker on your car. Simply show your support and concern in any way possible. If you have internet access, check the Issues and Actions page of the California Audubon website at ca.audubon.org (in Florida, fl.audubon.org). Write or call your elected officials – city, county, state, federal, any and all of them. Let them know that you care about birds and that you vote. Write letters to the local newspaper. Conservation doesn't just happen in the Arctic Refuge, it happens at home as well - at the mouth of the Garcia River and on the beaches of Ten Mile.

Each of us has different talents and interests, but we are all bound by a common interest in birds. Your Mendocino Coast Audubon Society is more than a birding club. We are also a conservation organization that speaks out for, and takes action in, the interest of birds and our own survival. I ask you to learn from the youthful mistakes of the person I was some thirty years ago. Support us in our efforts to preserve and protect the wild things we love. You will become the best birder possible.

*This article is reprinted with permission from David Jensen and the Mendocino Coast Audubon Society, www.mendocinocoastaudubon.org. It was first published November 2007 in their newsletter, *The Whistling Swan*. It has since been reprinted numerous times, including in the May 2012 issue of the Marin Audubon Society's newsletter, *The Clapper Rail*, www.marinaudubon.org.*

Who is Protecting Florida's State Parks?

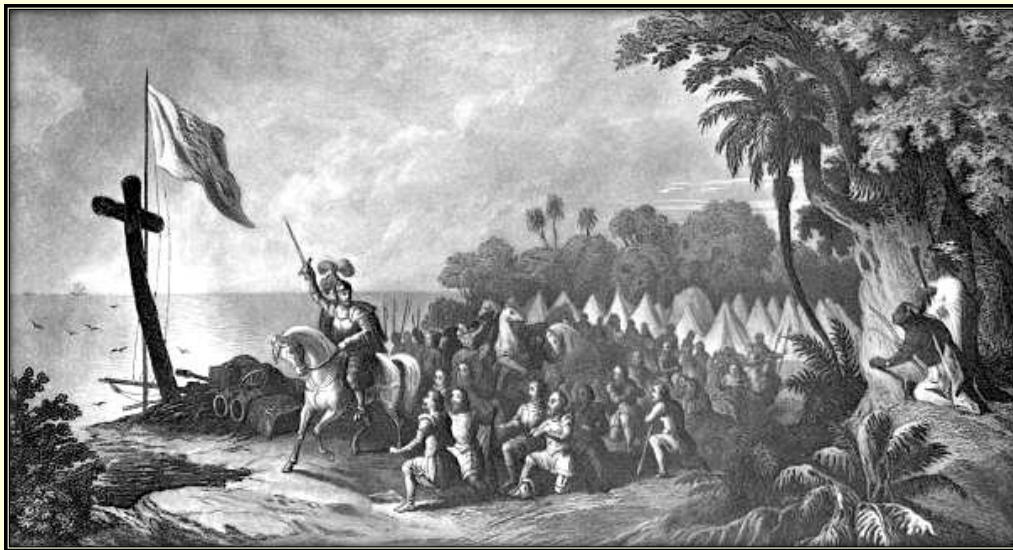
By Jim A. Stevenson



The people of Florida take great pride in their state parks. They are the heart of what makes Florida special.

The Florida Park Service has managed Florida's state parks for 80 years. The agency is directed "to acquire typical portions of the original domain of such character as to emblemize the state's natural values and conserve those values --- for all time." (62D FAC) This is interpreted to mean that representative examples of original natural Florida will be restored and managed as they appeared when Europeans arrived in 1513, to the extent possible.

Thanks to the vision and dedication of our park rangers and biologists, Floridians can observe what Florida looked like when the state's history was being made. They can visit Ichetucknee Springs State Park, www.floridastateparks.org/park/Ichetucknee-Springs, near Lake City, to experience the springs as Hernando DeSoto did when he was there in 1539. At Manatee Springs State Park, www.floridastateparks.org/park/manatee-springs, near Chiefland, they can see the natural landscape that naturalist William Bartram described in 1774 and they can visit Torreya State Park, www.floridastateparks.org/park/Torreya, in Liberty County, to witness the natural conditions that General Andrew Jackson experienced there in 1818 during the First Seminole War. No other state has managed their state parks with this extraordinary vision.



Drawing of Hernando DeSoto Landing at Tampa Bay

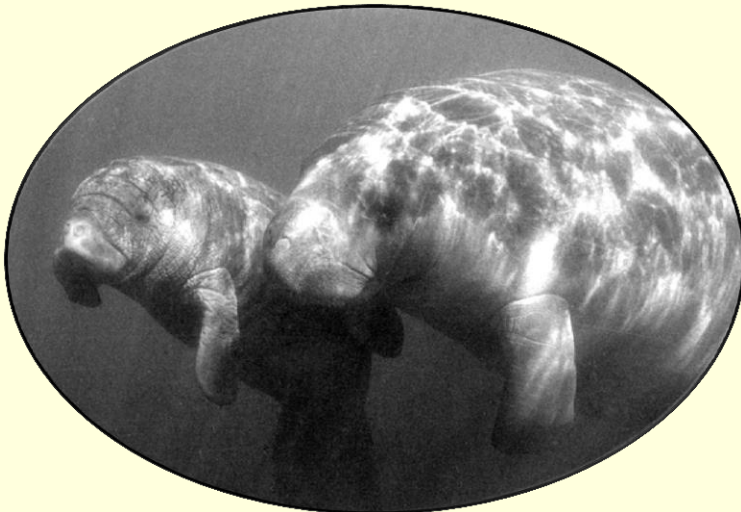
Courtesy State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory, Samuel Sartain, <http://floridamemory.com/items/show/2825>

Men and women of foresight restored these parks in decades past that were enjoyed by over 27 million Floridians and tourists last year. This is the premier state park system in the United States having won the national state parks Gold Medal Award on three occasions. If there was ever a case of "if it ain't broke don't fix it," this is a prime example.

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) which oversees the Florida Park Service is responsible for the protection of Florida's state parks. The state parks have been a single-use agency for 80 years but now DEP intends to manage the parks under a multiple-use philosophy which means practically any activity is permissible as long as it generates more revenue. This includes such activities as logging, hunting and livestock grazing. This will be the most significant change affecting our state parks since the state park system was established in 1935. DEP plans to convert 10 square miles of Myakka River State Park, www.floridastateparks.org/park/Myakka-River, into a cattle ranch --- privatization and multiple-use in one of Florida's oldest and most popular state parks. Who will protect our state parks from such ill-conceived uses?

Florida's state parks are to Florida what the national parks are to the nation. No one would think of cutting forests, grazing livestock or shooting deer in a national park. It is equally unthinkable that natural pine forests would be cut in a Florida state park so as to increase revenue. Thankfully, we do not expect public schools, public health, art and history museums to pay their own way.

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Manatees

Courtesy State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory
<http://floridamemory.com/items/show/266432>

State Parks are living natural museums where we can experience remnants of Florida as they were when the Seminoles lived here. The parks provide 77% of their costs --- the most ever. Is that not enough? The DEP secretary told a senate committee that he intends to make the parks 100% self-supporting. Our state parks are special places of importance to thousands of Floridians and they react strongly when their parks are threatened by special interests. It is foolish for DEP to slap this hornet’s nest.

There is no other natural landscape like Florida; however, DEP executives would alter our parks for profit, making them merely Anyplace Else USA.

Park rangers and biologists have been sensitively restoring and managing state parks for decades for the enjoyment of Floridians and tourists but not in order to have them damaged by heavy equipment, chain saws and cattle hooves. Such practices would demonstrate a complete lack of sensitivity to the values of our state parks. Tree stumps, logging truck roads, manure and cell towers may be deemed acceptable on other state lands but they are not acceptable in our state parks. If you have a favorite state park, prepare to fight for it because it is at risk.

It is hypocritical to boast of eliminating thousands of state employees and then criticize state agencies for not getting their job done. This is government designed to fail. Two of the finest springs in the world, Silver Springs and Weeki Wachee Springs, were degraded into honky-tonk tourist attractions by corporations in pursuit of profits. Now they are state parks and the Florida Park Service is left with the task of removing dilapidated structures, acres of asphalt and healing the wounds from decades of abuse, the result of managing our natural treasures like a business.

There is also a myth that some of our state park lands are locked-up denying public access. The park service is very experienced at balancing recreation and preservation. Florida’s state land managers are among the best in the nation. The governor and cabinet have presented the Resource Manager of the Year Award to 22 state park land managers during the past 22 years to commend their good work.

The people of Florida expect the governor and legislature to support the Florida Park Service in doing what it does best, the sensitive, professional management of our state parks---the Real Florida.

Jim A. Stevenson was Chief Naturalist of Florida’s state parks from 1969 through 1989 and he is a retired DEP Senior Biologist. Jim is author of “My Journey in Florida’s State Parks: A Naturalist’s Memoir”.



**58th Annual Florida Park Service Ranger Academy
Weekiwa Springs State Park - Apopka, Florida in 2002**

Courtesy State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory, <http://floridamemory.com/items/show/16074>
Florida Park Service Director Wendy Spencer, front row in purple jacket; Ranger Academy Director Geri Forslund, far right front row; Assistant Academy Director Heather Shuke-Nelson, 3rd from left on front row.

New Chapter, New Friends

by Karen Willes

Having recently retired, I am certainly enjoying this new chapter in my life that now includes more time for birding. But not just birding. I, also, have enjoyed many surprises along the way as I have met new people with similar interests. The year began with attending the digiscoping sessions at the Space Coast Birding Festival in Titusville. One entire day was spent digiscoping in different areas with a person from California whom I had just met. I took the Florida Scrub-Jay photo included in the 2015 Spring Cards for the Florida Wildlife Federation on that day and my new digiscoping friend and I communicate now via social media.



Florida Scrub-Jay

Photo by Karen Willes

On April 10, I began what was planned as a 4-day birding trip -- 2 days at the St. Augustine Alligator Farm and 2 days at Viera Wetlands. The trip, however, extended into 6 days because of the weather. The Ritch Grissom Memorial Wetlands and Dan Click Ponds, known as the Viera Wetlands, is a water reclamation facility 140 miles south of St. Augustine near Melbourne. Upon my arrival, the roads at the 200-acre wetlands were closed to driving because of rain. I spent only one night in Melbourne and then drove south to visit other water reclamation facilities with artificial wetlands that I had learned of through posts on social media. I went to Wakodahatchee Wetlands and Green Cay Wetlands west of Boynton Beach. These were of special interest because I grew up in Boynton Beach and during that time, that area was farmland. Not so now! The land has been developed much farther west than I even imagined!



Wakodahatchee Wetlands was created from 50 acres of unused utility land and the 100-acre Green Cay Wetlands land came from a farming family who sold it at 1/3 of its appraised value with the stipulation that it become a wetland. Both wetlands have approximately 1 mile of handicap accessible boardwalks and I was delighted to see people of all ages enjoying the wildlife as they made their way across the boardwalks.

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Left: View from the boardwalk at Wakodahatchee Wetlands

Above: Looking towards the Nature Center from the boardwalk at Green Cay Wetlands

Photos by Karen Willes

After Boynton Beach, I drove south and crossed to the west coast via the Tamiami Trail with stops at “Ding” Darling NWR on Sanibel Island, the Celery Fields in Sarasota, and Fort De Soto Park in St. Petersburg.

Later this spring, the weather cooperated for two other trips and I was able to spend more time at the St. Augustine Alligator Farm and at Viera Wetlands. I had opportunities to photograph many nesting birds with chicks -- Roseate Spoonbills, Wood Storks, Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets, Cattle Egrets, Tricolored Herons, Green Herons, Little Blue Herons, Great Blue Herons, Anhingas, Muscovy Ducks, King Rails, & Sandhill Cranes.

Upon my return I have enjoyed the Apalachee Audubon Field Trips with Helen King. I am so impressed with Helen's ability to identify many birds by their calls!



Roseate Spoonbill and Wood Stork nests photographed two weeks apart at the St. Augustine Alligator Farm

Collage and Photos by Karen Willes



On May 23 we went to St. Marks and documented 61 species. On June 6 we stayed in the Tallahassee area and went to Cascades Park (18 species), Lake Elberta (16 species), and Lake Henrietta (14 species). The birding opportunities in our area are amazing and these visits to other places have helped me better appreciate what is right here at home! (See page 18 for the July Field Trip schedule.)



Above: Apalachee Field Trip to Cascades Park - Photo by Lou Kellenberger

Left: Limpkin at Lake Henrietta - Photo by Karen Willes

Sanibel Island's "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge

A Mecca for Birders, Bikers, Hikers, and Photographers!

By Budd Titlow



A Snowy Egret catches a fish in Ding Darling NWR

Photo by Budd Titlow

From the first time I visited Sanibel Island while attending the North American Nature Photography Association's (NANPA) First Annual Summit in 1995, I have delighted in going back to Sanibel and "Ding" Darling as often as I can. The combination of fabulous birding and photography, extensive winding bike paths, plus mouth-watering restaurants – encompassing all my favorite activities – is just too hard to resist!

The following information from the J. N. "Ding" Darling Foundation which is now part of the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, www.dingdarlingsociety.org, perfectly summarizes this little slice of heaven located in Southwest Florida.

During his lifetime, J. N. "Ding" Darling was most widely known for his editorial cartoons, which appeared in nearly 150 newspapers nationwide and earned him two Pulitzer Prizes. All were drawn before the advent of television and many were drawn before radio—an era when newspapers were the primary source of information and commentary. Published with near-daily frequency, sometimes on the front page, Darling's cartoons had an enormous impact on public opinion. Although "Ding" earned his living as an editorial cartoonist, his passion was teaching the wise use of the world's natural resources.

Skilled in public speaking, articulate in writing, Darling devoted his special talents to conservation education and to developing programs and institutions which would benefit wildlife. The National Wildlife Federation, the Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit Program, the Federal Duck Stamp Program, all owe their early existence to Darling's forceful leadership and conservation ethic.

Named one of the top ten birding spots in this nation, the "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge is located on Sanibel Island, Florida. The Refuge is easily reached via a causeway connecting the mainland to Sanibel Island in the Gulf of Mexico near Ft. Myers. Creation of the refuge began in the early 1940s, when "Ding" Darling learned that the State of Florida was nearing agreement to sell 2,200 pristine acres of Sanibel's mangrove wetlands to developers for fifty cents an acre. Quickly gathering his allies, Darling arranged for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to lease the threatened land to form the Sanibel Island National Wildlife Refuge. Taken just in the nick of time, this was the first step in protecting forever this crucial wildlife habitat. Darling recognized the special qualities of this place where land met sea, saltwater met freshwater, and temperate climate mixed with tropical climate to produce a habitat that is uniquely productive for wildlife. The surrounding estuary with its rich sea grass meadows, mudflats, and mangroves produces shelter and huge amounts of food for birds, fish, reptiles, and a host of other animals.

Today, the J. N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, http://www.fws.gov/refuge/jn_ding_darling/, is one of the most visited refuges in the nation, with almost a million visitors annually. Five-mile Wildlife Drive winds through mangrove forest and tidal flats, making wildlife watching accessible to everyone. Sunny afternoons in winter are the best times to watch alligators and maybe even to catch a glimpse of the resident crocodile. Low tides from mid-October through April often result in thousands of wading, swimming, and diving birds feeding on the mudflats. These include Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets, Wood Storks, Roseate Spoonbills, Great and Little Blue Herons, White and Brown Pelicans, Tricolored Herons, Yellow-crowned Night-Herons, Short and Long-billed Dowitchers, Yellowlegs, Anhingas, Cormorants, Blue-winged Teal, Ospreys, and Bald Eagles. During the fall and spring migration of songbirds, the Refuge provides a resting place as well as food for the energy required for their remarkable flights. *Republished with permission from the "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, www.dingdarlingsociety.org.*

Looking for an interesting day trip...Two Great State Parks!

By Lou Kellenberger

Bald Point State Park



Black Skimmer with Marbled Godwits - Photo by Lou Kellenberger

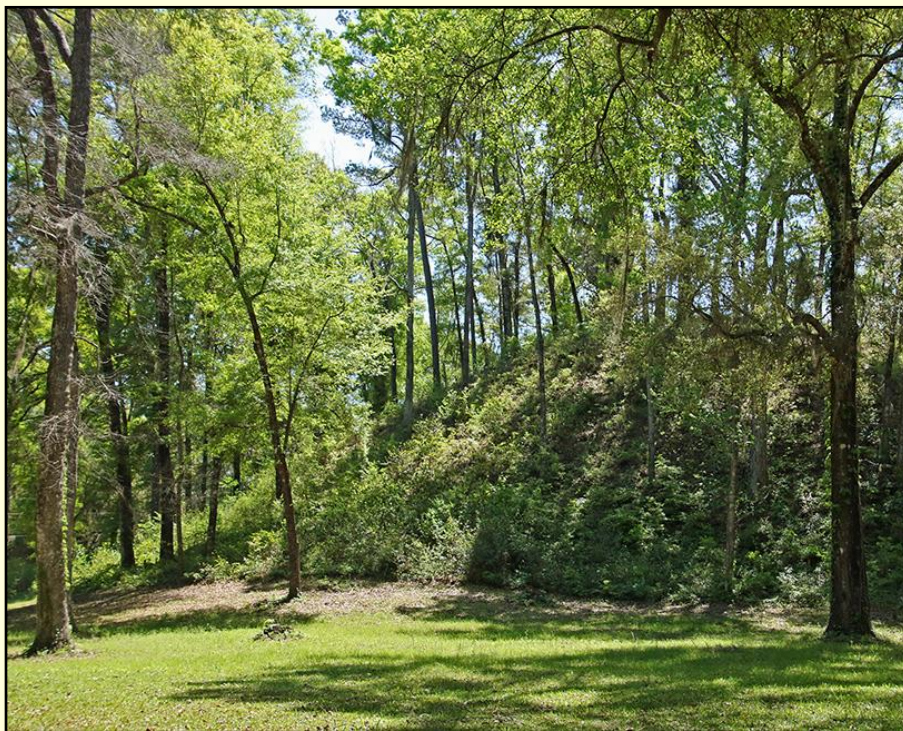
<https://www.floridastateparks.org/park/Bald-Point>

Located on Alligator Point where Ochlockonee Bay meets Apalachee Bay, Bald Point offers a multitude of land and water activities. Coastal marshes, pine flatwoods, and oak thickets foster a diversity of biological communities that make the park a popular destination for birding and wildlife viewing. Every fall, bald eagles, other migrating raptors, and monarch butterflies are commonly sighted as they head south for the winter. Bald Point offers access to two Apalachee Bay beaches for swimming, sunbathing, and fishing. Other activities include canoeing, kayaking, windsurfing, and hiking. Facilities include a fishing dock and picnic pavilions. This beautiful state park, along north Florida's Gulf Coast, is located off U.S. Highway 98 one mile south of Ochlockonee Bay. Take State Road 370 for 3 miles to Bald Point Road.

Letchworth-Love Mounds Archaeological State Park

By Lou Kellenberger

Visitors to this archaeological site will see Florida's tallest Native American ceremonial mound which was built between 1100 and 1800 years ago. *The park offers picnicking, birding and biking.* The pavilion has interpretive displays and a bronze sculpture



Ceremonial Mound - Photo by Lou Kellenberger

of the mound. An interpretive trail starts at the base of the ceremonial mound and winds past several smaller mounds. The pavilion picnic area and platform viewing area for the mound are wheelchair-accessible. Guided tours are available upon request.

Letchworth-Love Mounds Archaeological State Park is located in Jefferson County, approximately six miles west of Monticello. From Monticello go west on U.S. 90. Turn left onto Sunray Road South and proceed half a mile to the park entrance. From Tallahassee take U.S. 90 east for approximately 15 miles past I-10, then turn right onto Sunray Road South and proceed half a mile to the park entrance. More information for you:

<https://www.floridastateparks.org/park/Letchworth>



A Lucky Beaver and Wild Summer Fun at St. Francis Wildlife

By Sandy Beck

St. Francis Wildlife Education Director

This is the tale of an animal rescue involving a beaver with raging hormones, a police department, several compassionate humans and a happy ending. The Tallahassee Police Department called St. Francis Wildlife to report a beaver behaving strangely near Cascades Park. When St. Francis Wildlife volunteer Emily Shaw arrived, she found a confused male beaver moving erratically down the road, weaving from one side to the other between the cars. Emily captured him with a net and transported him to our wildlife hospital.

St. Francis Wildlife director and wildlife rehabilitator Teresa Stevenson examined the beaver, but could not find anything wrong. The next morning, she took him to Bradfordville Animal Hospital where Dr. Steve Stevenson anesthetized him and did blood tests, the results of which were normal.

After the beaver spent two more days at our wildlife hospital under close observation, Teresa determined that he was fine — probably just a male with raging hormones searching for a new home and mate (typical spring behavior). The poor guy had gotten lost. Imagine trying to navigate our downtown streets without a map or GPS!

Teresa received permission to release him in proper beaver habitat, on Jim Stevenson and Tara Tanaka's 45-acre cypress swamp wildlife sanctuary. As the beaver headed for the stand of willows, Jim named him "Lucky," and Tara remarked, "Lucky is one lucky beaver, indeed!"

Tara Tanaka, an award-winning nature photographer, has a Flickr site, www.flickr.com/photos/focused-on-birds, dedicated to wildlife photography — most of which was shot in their wild backyard. As a St. Francis Wildlife volunteer, Tara also created a stunning video of our disabled raptors (*members of our outreach education program*) and some of the orphaned babies in our wildlife hospital which you can view at www.stfranciswildlife.org.

If you're looking for some wild fun this summer, consider becoming a St. Francis Wildlife volunteer. It's baby season, and our wildlife hospital is filled with orphans. Read the "Overview of Volunteer Work" and watch our volunteer video at: www.stfranciswildlife.org/GetInvolved.html. If this interests you and you are at least 18, call St. Francis Wildlife at (850) 627-4151 to schedule your training session. If you find a wild animal that you think may need help, call St. Francis Wildlife at (850) 627-4151 for help with assessing the situation, or get more information about wildlife rescue at www.stfranciswildlife.org.

Another opportunity to learn about wildlife up close this summer will be Saturday, July 25th, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., at the **St. Francis WildlifeFest** at beautiful White Dog Plantation (formerly Nicholson's Farm House) in Havana. We will serve up bagels, juice and coffee with wildlife, live music, children's arts and crafts activities, a silent auction and tours of the plantation, Gadsden County's oldest farm. The first 50 people/families will receive free backyard bird posters from FWC. See page 19 or www.stfranciswildlife.org/StFrancisWildlifeFestJuly2015.pdf.



Above: Teresa Stevenson releases the beaver as Jim Stevenson wishes him a happy life.

Middle: The beaver gingerly leaves his cage.

Bottom: Lucky hightails it to his new cypress swamp beaver paradise!

Photos by Tara Tanaka





Pat and Carol's Adventure into Wild Florida

By Pat Press and Carol Franchi

In February Pat and Carol went on a car trip to find historic and old time Florida attractions, including ones they missed growing up in the Sunshine State. Having never been to Silver Springs State Wildlife Park, <https://www.floridastateparks.org/park/silver-springs>, in Silver Springs, Florida, just south of Ocala, they set off to go down the river in the glass bottom boats, so often spoken of by tourists visiting from the North.

Opened in 1878 Silver Springs is billed as the oldest and most visited tourist attraction in Florida. The first thing you encounter upon entering is a very attractive deck around the spring head. There is a restaurant, a gift shop, walking trails, and many photographic scenes for the camera crazies with lots of opportunities for selfies on this trip. The Visitor Center has an Education Center which provides cultural and natural history information about the springs and the area in general. There are numerous wildlife viewing areas in this 5,000-acre park and reports of having seen the following species are given: bear, bobcat, armadillo, turkey, Sherman Fox Squirrel, coyotes, deer and gopher tortoises. We highly recommend the wildlife activities led by the Park rangers and biologists. There are many photos on the website to pique the imagination of what is available to see.



Seeing Silver Springs in Glass Bottom Boats - Ocala, Florida

Postcard Collection -State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory, <http://floridamemory.com/items/show/161179>

Our favorite part of the trip was the boat tour. Luckily, we had a super tour guide who was very familiar with the Silver River's history and local flora and fauna. He pointed out several great photo ops as we scooted down the clear spring fed river. For birding enthusiasts there were limpkins, anhingas, eagles, osprey, and many other species native to central Florida.



Underwater Ballet at Weeki Wachee Spring

Photo by Ted Lagerberg - State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory, <http://floridamemory.com/items/show/269663>

Just for added fun we spent the night and went to Weeki Wachee to see the mermaid show the following day. It is something every Floridian should see before it disappears. This park also had great walking and birding trails and another super boat ride. Swimming in the spring head is available for those who want to cool off in the clear, blue water. Birding opportunities abound here, also. Carol and Pat had a lovely time going back to the roots of Florida's old-timey attractions. More Weeki Wachee park information: <https://www.floridastateparks.org/park/weeki-wachee>.

Carol Franchi and Pat Press

Apalachee Audubon Education Committee Co-Chairs



Photographs by Nick Baldwin Summer at St. Marks NWR

Any season is a beautiful season at St. Marks NWR. Here are some photographs for your enjoyment. Come visit soon! Check out coming activities at St. Marks Refuge Association at www.stmarksrefuge.org and St. Marks NWR, http://www.fws.gov/refuge/st_marks/.



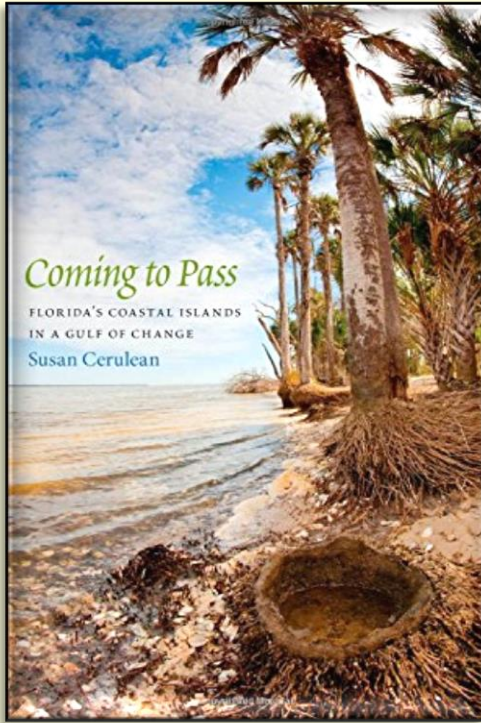
Night or Day it's beautiful at
St. Marks NWR!



Gulf Specimen Marine Lab founder Jack Rudloe released a Kemp's ridley turtle, the world's most endangered sea turtle, near the St. Marks Lighthouse recently after a 10-month rehabilitation at the Gulf Specimen Marine Lab, www.gulfspecimen.org.

A “Favorite Book” Review by Kent Spriggs

**Susan Cerulean’s
*Coming to Pass***



Susan has brought to bear an encyclopedic knowledge from many disciplines and infused it with great passion and “sense of place.”

This is a great book – Susan Cerulean’s love poem to the Coastal islands in the Gulf.

She brings a “sense of being” to animals, plants, and even geologic features: “if you continue walking, you will catch on to the geological rhythm of the island....”

The work makes connections in time – from prehistoric, to Native American, to European explorers, to contemporary occupants: “Because we do not know the story we have emerged from, we do not understand what our culture has done and is doing to the lives already here. Perhaps this is why whatever evidence of deep time we can find can be so powerful.”

The wisdom of Native Americans and their relationship to the land are brought to bear: “They lived consciously within an exquisite balance that included human beings.... They were comprised directly and intimately, cell by cell, of the generosity of land and sea.”

Our connections to species from insects to shore birds to scallops to loggerhead sea turtles to red wolves are explored in new ways that cause us to think: “We have no cultural commitment to safeguarding the places shorebirds live – their habitat – except during nesting season, when wildlife managers string plastic yellow rope between upright lengths of PVC pipe, symbolic or virtual fencing on the wide-open beach where the birds are laying eggs. Here’s the human analogy. It’s as if only certain races of humans, and only in the places they give birth at that, were protected. I don’t believe there will ever be more security for wild things until we can see how their needs and their lives parallel our own.”

The book is generously enriched by a number of “guest visitors” who have explored parts of the islands with her. Barbara, the ornithologist who illuminates the decline in bird species. Bruce, who sees St. George Island from the vantage point of the loggerhead turtles. Jeff G., who monitors the endangered beach mice. Andy, who has seen the decline of the iconic Apalachicola Bay oysters. Jean, who knows the ecosystem of the island upland.

Husband Jeff Chanton, an oceanographer and climatologist, is featured in many adventures. The photography is by the very talented David Moynahan; he and his wife Crystal participate in some of the adventures from which the script evolves.



Royal Terns

Photo by Nick Baldwin

Throughout the work Susan reflects on the quality of our stewardship of the land and its beings. It is telling and sobering.

*Note: **Coming to Pass** can be purchased at Native Nurseries in Tallahassee, The Bookshelf in Thomasville, and Downtown Books in Apalach. See Susan’s blog, <http://comingtopass.com/blog/>, and http://www.ugapress.org/index.php/books/index/coming_pass to learn more.*



Gloria Jahoda

State Archives, Florida Memory
<http://floridamemory.com/items/show/406>

A Favorite Book of Karin Stanford

The Other Florida

A Book by Gloria Jahoda

An excerpt ~ *“Discovery in the pinewoods is to find a clump of pale atamasco lilies half hidden by growing wiregrass. It is to listen, in successive springs and falls, for the songs of new migratory birds. It is to see tiny red berries of the yaupon holly clustered thickly on dainty-leaved stems in October. It is to see partridgeberries and starry white houstonias in bloom in April on the forest floor and to smell the occasional pink crabapple branches tangled in jasmine. It is to find a cluster of wild plum trees heavy with creamy blossoms deep in a grove of pines so far off the road no passerby can see them without setting out to walk and look; they are blooming, he may decide, only for the sake of their own beauty. Discovery too is to know the ti-ti bushes and loblolly bays and pitcher plants of pinewoods bogs and ponds. And it is always to breathe resinous freshness in unimaginable quiet felt even while there are sounds: the trills of vireos, the sibilance of wind-stirred needles, the running of a tiny spring behind a low hill.”* – *The Other Florida*, author Gloria Jahoda

Editor’s Note: Gloria Jahoda moved to Tallahassee with her husband, Gerald, in 1963. During the next several years Gloria explored the ‘other Florida’ and this book was published in 1967. In almost poetic prose Gloria shares an account of some of the people she met, the places she visited and the beautiful natural places she saw in North Florida. Along the way, she shares some fascinating in-depth history of the region. You can read about Seán McGlynn’s grandfather, renowned composer, pianist and conductor Ernst von (Ernő) Dohnányi and how, beginning in 1962, Tallahassee remembered him each year on his birthday July 27th with “Ernő Dohnányi Day”.

Gloria described seeing *“admiral’s wives and countesses tramping over the roughest terrain after foresters and ornithologists on Audubon wilderness expeditions. Sculptors and composers, the guests of the grand, scramble with them down ravines to look for mosses as they are told.”* (Yes, Gloria was a member of Apalachee Audubon and Dr. Long fondly remembers that they spent a number of hours together discussing topics of mutual interest.) Another Audubon member she met was Frank Pittman. Frank’s property had been in his family for generations and he christened it Bear Creek Nature Park. He shared it yearlong with scouts and nature groups; he built brightly colored surreys to transport visitors through woodland hoping to encourage others to cherish North Florida as much as he did. Today Bear Creek Educational Forest is a 492-acre tract within Lake Talquin State Forest.



Piney Grove M. B. Church
Photo by Suzanna MacIntosh

Gloria also met Yancey Register, a gentle hermit who preferred the marshes and a life at sea, “teppentime men” and their families, a revivalist, a rattlesnake collector, and many good hard working men and women. She improbably caught up with Julia Sanks who had known English composer Frederick Delius when he lived at Solano Grove and who had sung to him the traditional African American music she knew; music that inspired him and which he incorporated into his works **Appalachia** and his **Florida Suite**, for instance. You’ll also enjoy her accounts of her visit to Cedar Keys, complete with some great history...and I could go on and on. This is all to say, many thanks to Karin for sharing this wonderful book! Governor Bob Graham signed a resolution honoring Jahoda and wrote: *“She has given the generations of today and the future the opportunity to understand and appreciate the beauty of our environment . . . as well as the early culture of our state.”* More at <http://farawayinn.com/2015/05/10/gloria-jahoda-and-the-other-florida/>

Available on Amazon or a local library.

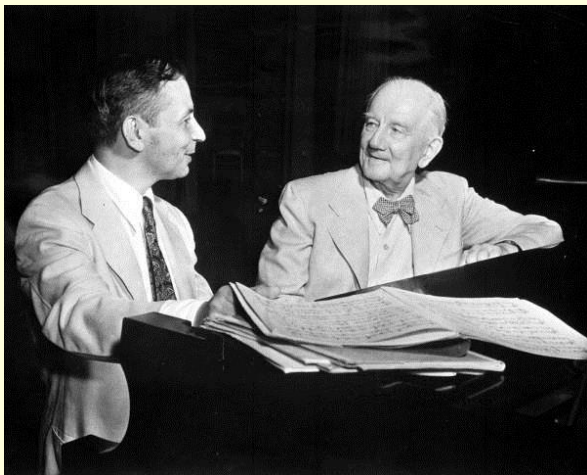


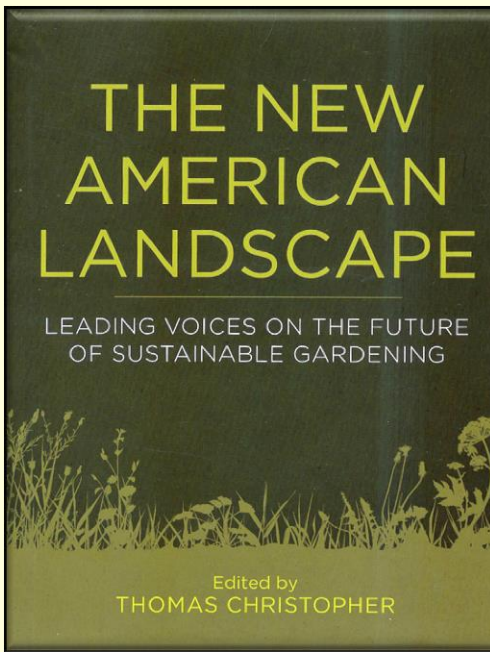
Photo left: Ernst von (Ernő) Dohnányi and Edward Kilenyi
FSU Music Professors - State Archives, Florida Memory <http://floridamemory.com/items/show/11308>

Two Favorite Books of Suzanna MacIntosh

The New American Landscape

Leading Voices on the Future of Sustainable Gardening

Edited by Thomas Christopher

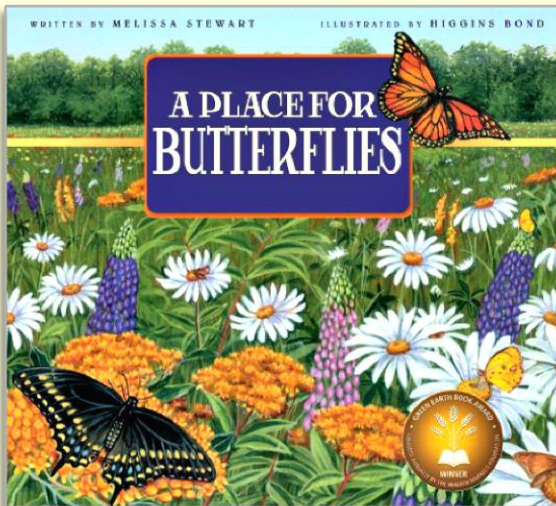


Fourteen voices and hundreds of ideas from leading thinkers in sustainable gardening . . .

- John Greenlee and Neil Diboll on meadows and “no-mow” lawns
- Rick Darke on native plants
- Doug Tallamy on gardening for wildlife
- Eric Toensmeier on edible gardens
- David Wolfe on gardening for climate change
- Elaine Ingham on the soil food web
- David Deardorff and Kathryn Wadsworth on pest and disease solutions
- Ed Snodgrass and Linda McIntyre on green roofs
- Tom Christopher on water conservation
- Toby Hemmenway on whole system garden design
- Sustainable Sites Initiative™ (SITES™)

The New American Landscape includes chapters by leading voices in the world of sustainable gardening; some we may have met before, like Doug Tallamy and Rick Darke, and others who will be new ‘friends’. As Thomas Christopher shares, *“Creating a truly sustainable garden isn’t difficult, but it does require a gentler, more holistic approach. To enable nature to take over such tasks as irrigation and fertilization requires an understanding of the systems involved, and the recognition that they are all interconnected.”*

Each author presents a world of information in a clear informative concisely written chapter. Learn about meadows and “no-mow” lawns, incorporating native plants into your garden, gardening for wildlife, edible gardens, gardening for climate change, the so important soil food web, sustainable pest and disease solutions, green roofs, water conservation, whole system garden design, and the “Sustainable Sites Initiative”. You’ll learn about the combined dynamics that a successful garden and ecosystem depend upon; and, in doing so, you’ll learn how to work with nature and how nature can be your best friend and helper in your garden landscape.



A Place for Butterflies

Written by Melissa Stewart

Illustrated by Higgins Bond

This beautifully illustrated book is filled with information for young readers about the life cycle of a butterfly, the foods they need to live and grow, and the various habitats that different species must have to survive. There are tips on how to help butterflies, like reducing pesticide use, planting native plants and removing pesky invasives.

Melissa Stewart has thoroughly researched this book with help from a variety of great sources like the North American Butterfly Association, www.naba.org, Massachusetts Audubon, www.massaudubon.org, and University of Florida at Gainesville, <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/index.php/exhibits/always-on-display/butterfly-rainforest/visitor-info/>.

Want to Learn More about Butterflies?



If you’d like to learn more about butterflies, Apalachee Audubon along with help from the St. Marks Refuge Association and St. Marks NWR established a beautiful Monarch Pollinator Garden at St. Marks NWR in 2009. It is located at Picnic Pond on Lighthouse Road. Please stop by next time you visit St. Marks NWR. If you’d like to help as a volunteer at the garden or elsewhere at the Refuge, see: http://www.fws.gov/refuge/St_Marks/get_involved/volunteers.html. Special thanks to Ann Bruce, AAS St. Marks NWR Butterfly Pollinator Garden Committee Chair, for all the great work at the garden!

Birdsong Nature Center has a beautiful butterfly garden and regular “Butterfly Garden Work Days”. This is a great way to learn as you volunteer and help out too. See Birdsong’s website at www.birdsongnaturecenter.org for more information.

And, Native Nurseries has many great butterfly workshops in July and August. See www.nativenurseries.com for more.

Barred Owl
Courtesy of
Steven D'Amato



Apalachee Audubon July Birding Field Trips With Helen King

For notification of coming field trips, subscribe to Apalachee Audubon's Google Groups email notification list available at www.apalachee.org. Birding reports are recorded at eBird and with Apalachee Audubon. Come bird with us when you can! Happy Birding!

This month we will stay by the water, hoping to catch a breeze.

Saturday, July 11: Bald Point State Park: Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Publix parking lot at the corner of Capital Circle SW and Crawfordville Highway. We will return for a late lunch. (See page 11 for more information about Bald Point State Park.)

Friday, July 31: North Tallahassee Lake Landings: Meet at 8 a.m. at Trader Joe's parking lot on Thomasville Highway.

Please email me, Helen King, at thekingsom@gmail.com if you plan to attend and please indicate if you are a willing driver.



NATIONAL MOTH WEEK

By Fran Rutkovsky

The fourth annual National Moth Week will celebrate moths worldwide in events ranging from "moth nights" open to the public to private observations at porch lights. This year's Moth Week spotlights "hawk moths" in the Sphingidae family. They are important pollinators of native plants. To learn lots more, see www.nationalmothweek.org.

Here are some important reasons to study moths:

- * Moths are among the most diverse and successful organisms on earth.
- * Scientists estimate there are 150,000 to more than 500,000 moth species.
- * Their colors and patterns are either dazzling or so cryptic that they define camouflage. Shapes and sizes span the gamut from as small as a pinhead to as large as an adult's hand.
- * Most moths are nocturnal, but some fly during the day.
- * Moths can give us clues about the health of their environment. Decreasing numbers in some locations can indicate problems in the ecosystem.

*Go outside and take a look at what's coming to your porch light.
You may be dazzled by the intricate patterns and shapes that are all around us.*

AUDUBON ASSEMBLY 2015

Save The Date - See you in October!

Friday, October 23 - Saturday, October 24

Sheraton Orlando North, Maitland, Florida

- The Audubon Assembly is Florida's premiere conservation event.
- Join friends - old and new - for two days of informative workshops with exciting guest speakers and unforgettable field trips.

*Staff and volunteers are hard at work preparing a one-of-a-kind experience for this year's gathering.
Please stay tuned for more information. We have some big announcements to make and will fill you in soon.*

You won't want to miss this year's Assembly!



St. Francis WildlifeFest

Saturday, July 25, 2015

9:30 am - 12:30 pm

White Dog Plantation

(formerly Nicholson Farmhouse)

200 Coca Cola Ave.
Havana, FL
SR-12/Havana Hwy
www.whitedog.co

Reptiles
Birds of Prey
Nature activities
Plantation tours
Children's crafts &
art contest w/prizes
Bagels, coffee &
juice included
Live music
Silent auction
Animal balloon artist
T-shirts & children's
books for sale

Admission

1 adult - \$15
2 adults - \$25
8 - 18 w/parent - \$5
7 & under w/parent - free

Details at
www.stfranciswildlife.org
or (850) 627-4151

Early-bird prizes for first 50 individuals/families.

ALL proceeds benefit local injured, orphaned and sick wildlife at the St. Francis Wildlife rehabilitation center.

Special thanks to our generous sponsors:
White Dog Plantation, Gadsden County Times, Bill's Signs,
Publix, Hopkins Eatery, Brennan Law Office P.A.



St. Francis Wildlife Association

St. Francis Wildlife, a non-profit organization founded in 1978, provides humane care and rehabilitation for thousands of wild birds and animals in our community each year as well as unique wildlife education programs. To learn more:
www.stfranciswildlife.org

St. Francis Wildlife

5580 Salem Road, Quincy, FL 32352

850 627-4151

Friends of Wakulla Springs State Park

Conserving The World's Largest
and Deepest Freshwater Spring

<http://wakullasprings.org/>



Wakulla Springs State Park

465 Wakulla Park Drive
Wakulla Springs, FL 32327
(850) 561-7276

Chimney Chitchat

Saturday, July 25
8:00-9:00 pm
and

Chimney Chitchat

Saturday, August 22
7:30-8:30 pm



Free with Park Admission (Meet in the Lodge Parking Lot)

Description: Join one of the park's volunteer citizen scientists for an introduction to the amazing Chimney Swifts, nature's 'flying cigars', as they circle the historic Wakulla Springs Lodge. The Lodge at Wakulla Springs has a large flock that roosts in an inactive chimney. Learn about the swifts as they perform their swirling aerial dance prior to their descent into the chimney. It's great practice for the official count in early September! *Please call 850-561-7286 to let us know you're coming.*

Morning Nature Walk

Saturday, August 8
8:00-9:30 am



Free with Park Admission (Meet in the Lodge Lobby)

Description: Wakulla Springs State Park will host a ranger-led early morning trek through its varying forest communities. This walk through the woods in the early morning light may hold a surprise or two. *Space is limited. Please call (850) 561-7286 to make your reservation*

Early Boat Tour

Saturday, August 22 from 8:00-9:00 am
\$10.00 Adult, \$7.00 Children
(Meet at the Waterfront Visitors Center)



Description: Get an extra early start enjoying the wildlife along the Wakulla River. This tour is a must for the birder or photographer. **Reservations suggested. Please call 561-7286 to reserve a space for the tour.**

Save the Date!



"Swift Night Out" at Wakulla Springs

Saturday, September 12

7:30 -8:30 pm

Free with Park Admission (Meet at the Entrance to the Lodge)

Description: The Lodge at Wakulla Springs has a large flock of Chimney Swifts that roosts in one of its inactive chimneys. Come witness the "flying cigar" shaped birds perform their swirling aerial dance prior to their descent into the chimney. Be part of this nationwide program to estimate their numbers. Enjoy this unusual ranger-led program and see firsthand one of nature's amazing spectacles. *Please call 561-7286 if you are planning to attend.*

<http://www.floridastateparks.org/park/Wakulla-Springs>



Birdsong Nature Center

2106 Meridian Road
Thomasville, Georgia

Wednesday, Friday & Saturday: 9 am - 5 pm
& Sunday: 1 - 5 pm *

Admission: \$5-adults; \$2.50-children, 4-12 years, Free to Members

* Birdsong will be closed August 15-September 1, 2015

For a schedule of special activities, please see www.birdsongnaturecenter.org,
[Birdsong's Facebook Page](#) or call 229 377-4408 or 800-953-BIRD (2473)

St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge



1255 Lighthouse Road
St. Marks, Florida 32355

www.fws.gov/refuge/st_marks/



A GREAT PLACE TO VISIT ALL YEAR LONG!

 **Hairstreak Chapter**
NORTH AMERICAN BUTTERFLY ASSOCIATION

The Hairstreak Chapter of the
North American Butterfly Association
has a new website - <http://hairstreakchapter.weebly.com/>



Mission San Luis

2100 West Tennessee Street, Tallahassee

Mission San Luis is a pet-friendly site, so bring your companions and enjoy the beautiful park setting and living history programs. Please join us for these & other events at Mission San Luis. The Mission with its historic village is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults; \$3 for seniors (65+); \$2 for children 6 to 17; and free for members, children under 6 and active duty military.

For more, please see www.missionsanluis.org or 

T.O.U.R. Tallahassee – Free day at Mission San Luis

August 15, 10 am to 4 pm

<http://www.visittallahassee.com/seasons/tour-guide/>


CENTER FOR THE VISUAL ARTS

125 North Gadsden Street - Tallahassee, Florida 32301
850.222.8800 - www.lemoyne.org



We love the great workshops at Native Nurseries!

Native Nurseries

1661 Centerville Road, Tallahassee, FL 32308
Monday-Saturday, 8am-6pm, 850-386-8882

Please see www.nativenurseries.com for more great workshops and information!



BUTTERFLIES LIKE IT HOT With Donna Legare - Saturday July 11th 10am Free

It may be hot, but it is not too late to get going on a butterfly garden that will provide color for the rest of the summer and fall, as well as colorful butterflies and hummingbirds. Donna will also teach you how to entice mother butterflies to lay their eggs in your garden so you can watch the caterpillars transform into butterflies. This workshop will include a tour of the Native Nurseries butterfly garden.

BIRDS OF SUMMER With Jody Walthall - Saturday July 18th 10am Free

Jody will cover a variety of topics related to the feeding and nesting habits of birds that frequent our yards in summer. He will discuss hummingbirds, how to outfox squirrels, nesting birds, birdbaths, planting for birds and the seasonal rhythms of bird appearances in our yards.

FORAGE A MEAL FROM YOUR OWN BACK YARD! Saturday July 25th 10am \$3.00

Class size limited; registration required; call 386-8882

Medicinal and edible native plants are all around us. Join St. Marks' Ranger, Scott Davis, as he shares his knowledge in a one hour presentation which will be followed by a walking tour of the nursery grounds for edible and medicinal plants.

MONARCHS - Saturday August 8th 10am Free

As the monarch population continues its alarming decline, we are in a great location here in the panhandle to positively impact its survival and to observe and enjoy this magical species. St. Marks Ranger, Scott Davis, will discuss the unique biology, life cycle and migration of the monarch butterfly and the native North Florida milkweeds it relies upon. He will also discuss the best native wildflowers you can plant in your yard to support monarchs and how you can get involved to help save this remarkable species.

NATIONAL HONEY BEE DAY AT NATIVE NURSERIES WITH APALACHEE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION FREE

Saturday August 15th 10am to 2pm with Guest Speakers at 10am and details below

Drop in anytime between ten and two to talk informally with area beekeepers. There will also be honey tasting, recipes and more!

10am to 11am - Guest speakers: Local beekeepers, Charles Futch and Susan Drake, will discuss bee biology and what it takes to get started in beekeeping. The 10am program is free, but class size is limited; call Lisa Lazarus with the Apalachee Beekeepers Association at (850) 294-3372 to register.