

The Avocet

Tampa Audubon Society May 2018 Newsletter

www.tampaaudubon.org

General Meeting Thursday, **May 3, 2018**

Hillsborough County UF Extension Conference Center, 5339 CR 579, Seffner
6 PM Photo Club ~ 7:00 PM Potluck dinner ~ 7:30 PM Meeting and Program
Bringing a dish to pass is optional.

PHOTO CLUB'S BIG SHOW!



Joel Jackson, Photo Club Chair

Tampa Audubon Club's May meeting is the Photo Club's "Big Show." This is the meeting where members share their favorite wildlife pictures. Any and all members (pros to beginner and not limited to photo club members) are encouraged to participate

by bringing a USB memory drive with between five to ten pictures. A **silent fund raising auction** will also be provided for those who would like to donate wildlife prints. This is a special and very popular meeting which has been both interesting and a lot of fun for all who attend. Joel Jackson will be the facilitator and asks that interested members contact him at joeljackson42@gmail.com if they have questions.

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

On most trips we have binoculars to loan, so don't hesitate to come! Unless otherwise indicated field trips do not require advance registration. Most are free. Everyone is welcome! **As always, check the TAS website for details.**

May 5—Colony Watch. 5:30 pm Meet at the Lake Forest Clubhouse parking lot located at 14735 Lake Forest Dr., Lutz, FL 33559 (off Bruce B Downs Blvd). Leader is Mary.

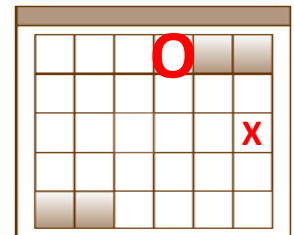


May 12 — Lettuce Lake Beginners

Bird Walk. Meet at 9 am in the parking lot by the Visitor's Center at the park to walk the boardwalk with us. Our winter warblers are here, the night herons are roosting again, come see what else we can find. Done by noon. Leader is Mary Keith.

Sat May 19—Schultz Preserve. 7:30 am. Meet at west end of Adamsville Road, Gibsonton. Google Maps shows Kracker Road but this road does not go through to the park. Trails are a bit rough, wear closed-toe shoes, bring water, snacks. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED, LIMITED TO 15 PEOPLE.** Contact leader Mic McCarty to sign up.

May 28-31—Spring Warblers in western Virginia



Osprey chicks stare down the intruders while mom does housework, at Rock Ponds. By Doug DeNeve

Lettuce Lake Beginning Birder Walks

June 9, July 14, July 14

June, July and August walks **start at 8 am!**

**July 18, 6 pm —Joint Meeting
with Sierra and Native Plant Society
Sign-in in Conference Center
Potluck dinner at 6:30 pm in the KITCHEN
Speaker—Heather Young
Senior Environmental Planner
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council**

Organizing a climate compact for our region, and setting up a technical advisory committee: How it's going, what's involved!

Please come at 4:30 to help set up the rooms if you can!! We will serve food in the kitchen, have tables for eating in kitchen and meeting room, and speakers and display tables in conference center! Help afterwards to clean up will be greatly appreciated too!



Recent Events: Earth Day at Lettuce Lake was a great success! We had 40 people come for the walks, some of whom had never been to the park before. One barred owl was 'on duty', posing by the boardwalk for most of the day.

Over 100 people stopped by our table at the MetLife Earth Day Fair.

The Cockroach Bay walk was warbler-world! Blackpolls, Cape May, Prairies, Parulas, palms, red-starts, and one Blackburnian warbler! The welcome committee was a family of sandhill cranes, and a pair of gray kingbirds topped the hill for us.

Board of Directors: The slate of nominees for our new board of directors is:

Doug DeNeve, currently Chair of the Conservation Committee, and field trip leader

Pat Lewis, past president

Lucy Polak, owner of Wild Birds Unlimited

If anyone else would like to be included as a nominee (it's only 20 hours a year folks!), please contact Mary Keith or Rob Yoho this week!

We will vote on the nominees at this May meeting.



Screech owl mom and one of the three juveniles, looking at the world.

Photo by August Muench.

The owner of this box had invited us to visit and see

the owls after the Cockroach Bay trip. His son took the photo.

HELP AT CLEAN AIR FEST

May 3, at Poe Plaza downtown, from 10 am to 2 pm. TAS will have an information table there. If you'd like to help the spread the word about all we do and could share an hour or two for that, contact Mary.

CONTACT LIST FOR TRIP LEADERS and BOARD

Mary Keith, Pres. Mary.keith@tampaaudubon.org

Sandy Reed, VP. Sandy.reed@tampaaudubon.org

Michelle Hoffman Wrobel, Treasurer

michelle.hoffman.wrobel@tampaaudubon.org

Sherry Keller, Secretary, trip leader

sherry.keller@tampaaudubon.org

Megan Campbell, trip leader, BoD Member

Megan.campbell@tampaaudubon.org

Doug DeNeve, Conservation Chair, trip leader

Doug.deneve@tampaaudubon.org

Roger Sheets, Lettuce Lake Volunteer Coordinator

roger.sheets@tampaaudubon.org

Mic McCarty, trip leader BoD Member

Mic.mccarty@tampaaudubon.org

Nancy Murrah, 2nd VP of Board, Raptor Rescue,

Eagle Watch Nancy.murrah@tampaaudubon.org

Pam Deneve pam.deneve@tampaaudubon.org

Connie Anderson, BoD, trip leader [con-](mailto:connie.anderson@tampaaudubon.org)

nie.anderson@tampaaudubon.org

Rob Yoho rob.yoho@tampaaudubon.org

Other Upcoming Events



Free **JayWatch** Trainings are taking place this month! **To get the schedule of trainings or to register for one, please contact: Jacqui Sulek**

jsulek@audubon.org. Trainings include an overview of Florida Scrub-jay behavior and field practice with the Scrub-jay mapping

and survey protocol. All trainings are held in the mornings and are completed by noon.

Gopher Tortoise Hike at Boyd Hill Nature Preserve. Sunday, May 20, 9 am.

Registration is required! Boyd Hill Nature Preserve is located at 1101 Country Club Way S. in St. Petersburg.

For more information or directions, please call the preserve at (727) 893-

7326. The survey recently completed there located over 230 burrows, so you are sure to see a tortoise to two. We even scared a coyote cub out of one burrow!



June 2, Brooker Creek Birdathon

Birding from 5:30 am to 11:30 am, followed by lunch and prizes.

Birders of all levels are welcome and encouraged to attend! Teams of 2-4 people, \$10/person, includes lunch. Teams are encouraged to invite youth birders to join their team and may include them as extra members over the cap of four. Prizes will be awarded in a variety of categories including most species per team and many more... Birding will take place by teams at their own pace at a choice of several areas within the Brooker Creek Preserve boundary, most not open to the public. Maps indicating entry/parking sites, including "hot spot" locations, will be provided to participants. Data collected will be used

to help monitor breeding bird populations. **Team leaders must RSVP by April 30, 2018.**

This event is sponsored by Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve.

3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs, 34688

For questions or to sign up: Call 727-934-2680

Email fobcp@tampabay.rr.com

Invitation

Rosebud Continuum Open House on May 12, 2018.

7543 Land O'Lakes Blvd. Land O'Lakes, FL 34638

The event will feature tours of lakeside native plant and wildflower project and newly designed nature trail, and of sustainability education center which includes organic garden, classroom, apiary, biodigester project, aquaponics & hydroponics systems, petting zoo, garden market and more.



Prothonotary Warbler,

Lettuce Lake Park

Doug DeNeve

Remember

Membership Renewals

THANKS TO ALL THE RENEWING MEMBERSHIPS WE'VE RECEIVED RECENTLY!

If you haven't renewed in some time, you're probably due too. Renew your Audubon membership through TAS so we get the funds sooner. When you receive your renewal notice from National Audubon, just download the application form from our website, or even just cut out the address label from the Audubon magazine, and send it to us with your check. We then forward your renewal to National, but we've recorded it here first. Thank you!!



Smile!

Do your on-line shopping where it will help support our programs. Here's a link to help: [How to donate to a charity on Amazon](https://smile.amazon.com). If you want Amazon to donate to Tampa Audubon Society Inc, you need to start each shopping session at the Smile URL <https://smile.amazon.com>. They donate 0.5% of the value of our purchases to TAS.