



The Crane

Volume 59 Number 5 May–June 2018

May and June Field Trips

The Annual Schedule of 2017/2018 Alachua Audubon Field Trips is on the AAS web site (AlachuaAudubon.org under Activities > Field Trips > Field Trip Schedule). Printed copies may be obtained at Wild Birds Unlimited.

Sunday, May 6

Cedar Key by Boat (sign-up required): Join trip leader Scott Flamand and the Tidewater Tour crew on a canopied pontoon boat ride into some of the better-known shorebird haunts of the Cedar Key area. Tidewater Tour owners offer a special Alachua Audubon price of \$25 per person for this trip. Call Wild Birds Unlimited (352-381-1997) to reserve a spot and for details on where and when to meet. Difficulty: 1.

Saturday, May 12, 8:00 a.m.

Longleaf Flatwoods Reserve (CLEP*): Meet trip leader Michael Drummond at the Longleaf Flatwoods Reserve on CR-325. We'll look for Bachman's Sparrow, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Red-headed Woodpecker, and others, but we'll be looking at everything – trees, wildflowers, insects, reptiles, whatever we find. Directions: Go east on Hawthorne Rd. to CR-325, right on CR-325 for 2.3 miles. Bring insect repellent, sunscreen, and water. Difficulty: 3.

***The Conservation Lands Educational Program (CLEP)** is designed to bring attention to local land conservation efforts. These trips take place on properties purchased to protect natural resources and are led by a representative who will discuss the ecological features and history of the site, in addition to birding.

Friday, June 1, 6:15 a.m.

June Challenge Kick-off: Meet Rex Rowan in the parking corral of the Longleaf Flatwoods Reserve (on CR-325, 2.3 miles south of Hawthorne Rd.) to kick off The June Challenge. We'll try to find Common Nighthawk and Bachman's Sparrow at Longleaf. Next we'll go to Windsor to scope Newnans Lake for Bald Eagles and Laughing Gulls. If time allows we'll also visit Powers Park and Palm Point for additional views of Newnans Lake and possibly some late migrants. Our last stop will be La Chua Trail (\$4 per vehicle entry fee) to search for Indigo Bunting, Blue Grosbeak, Yellow-breasted Chat, Orchard Oriole, King Rail, Least Bittern, and Purple Gallinule. We'll be done by lunchtime with 40-50 species on our June Challenge lists. Difficulty: 3.

Note: After a summer break, AAS field trips will resume in September.

Inside this issue:

Around the County	p.2
The June Challenge	p.3
AAS Feral Cat Statement	p.4
The Feather Atlas	p.5
Programs / Events	p.6
Preventing Bird Strikes; Book Review	p.7
Support our Advertisers	p.8
Jay Watch; Book Reviews	p.10

Trip Difficulty 1: Trip within easy access to the vehicle and/or level terrain one; mile or less. **2:** May involve uneven terrain; one to two miles. **3:** May involve elevation change, uneven terrain, and/or greater than two miles.

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Alachua Audubon Society's mission is to foster appreciation and knowledge of birds and other native wildlife, to protect and restore wildlife populations and their habitats, and to promote sustainable use of natural resources.

Content of *The Crane* is the sole responsibility of the editor and fulfills the stated objectives and goals of the Alachua Audubon Society. Annual subscription to *The Crane* is included in National Audubon and/or Alachua Audubon membership. Please see the back page for more information. New advertisers are welcomed. Please contact the editor for information at karenpbrown1953@gmail.com or 352-213-4257 .

Submissions to *The Crane* are welcomed. Deadline for the May-June issue: April 15th

**Around
The County...
By Mike Manetz**

Folks who have birded here for decades can tell you how uncommon Limpkins used to be. One could bird actively for a year and not see one. Then roughly ten year ago came the invasion of exotic apple snails (*Pomacea*) which became their new primary food source, and the population of Limpkins literally exploded.

With that came speculation about the possibility of Snail Kites expanding into our area. The northern-most nesting population of Snail Kites in Florida is at Lake Tohopekaliga near Orlando, but they are known to be wanderers and opportunistic breeders. Given the startling expansion of snails on the basin, it didn't seem much of a stretch to think they might start showing up here.

We received our first harbinger, an adult male, on March 20th, 2016 at Sweetwater Wetlands Park (SWP). This was pretty exciting because it was only our third Snail Kite ever, and the first one seen here in ten years, but he only stayed a week. Two months later a female Kite appeared but she left us after only a few days. Then last fall, Hurricane Irma flooded the entire basin, providing snails with vast new areas to colonize and presenting hundreds of acres of half-submerged willow snags on which to lay their eggs. The snails responded aggressively and Snail Kites took notice. Caroline Poli, herself a Snail Kite researcher, along with Isabel Gottlieb and Rob Vessels, discovered an

immature bird February 19th in the south-west corner of cell 1 at SWP. This bird remained *in situ*, gorging itself on the abundant supply of snails for an unprecedented month and a half. During this time it had



Photo courtesy of Tom Tompkins.

single-day visits from an adult male March 11th and 26th, and another brief visit from an immature bird April 7th. So we then had at least three, perhaps four different Snail Kites. And what were they up to? On April 8th, Peter Polshek and Laura Gaudette were scoping south from the boardwalk at flooded La Chua trail and in the distance they spotted three Snail Kites hunting just over the willows. The following day Caroline Poli and Joe

What's Summer Without The June Challenge? Nothing But Hot Air!

The June Challenge celebrates its 15th birthday this year. Our annual summer birding contest has recently attracted up to 50 local participants. Those who subscribed to my email birding reports would receive frequent updates as the Challenge progressed: for instance, "Hey guys, a Painted Bunting was photographed this morning at La Chua. Hurry over and try to find it for your own June Challenge list right now!" At the end of the month I'd announce the winners and runners-up.

In 2016, however, a South Florida birder named Trey Mitchell created a June Challenge website that allowed birders anywhere in the world to enter their own sightings; the site kept the standings automatically. I was already contemplating the end of the email birding reports, and this seemed a good way to keep the June Challenge going without them, so I treated last year as a transition, referring participants to Trey's web site but also continuing my birding reports until the end of the month. After I'd announced the final standings (Mike Manetz won with 117 species), the birding reports were retired. I assumed that Trey's website would carry the Challenge into the future.

But Trey died last fall, and his web site is gone. So this year's Challenge will operate differently. News and updates will be posted to the Alachua Audubon Society's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/AlachuaAudubon/ and hopefully all future Challenges will be reported there. But I'm also going to revive my birding reports for one month to make this second transition. So please send me news of your best sightings and, if you take pictures, send those too. Email me at rexrowan@gmail.com or leave a phone message at 352-371-9296. Or put it on your own Facebook page and share the post with the Alachua Audubon page.

As usual I'll be leading kickoff field trips to get The June Challenge underway. We'll meet at 6:15 a.m. in the parking corral at Longleaf Flatwoods Reserve (on County Road 325, 2.3 miles south of Hawthorne Road) on both Friday the 1st and, for you working stiffs, Saturday the 2nd. On each day we'll visit two or three other sites after Longleaf, and head home around lunchtime with 50-60 species. And then on Sunday the 3rd we'll visit Watermelon Pond to see the county's only known Burrowing Owls. Sounds like fun, right?

If you're interested in joining us, here are the rules: (1) Only birds seen in Alachua County during June may be counted. (2) Heard birds do not count; you've got to SEE those Chuck-will's-widows and Eastern Screech-Owls. So don't trust eBird with your June Challenge list since it lists heard birds the same as seen ones. (3) You are free to put Muscovy Ducks, retention-pond Mallards, and Whooping Cranes on your list, but no other domestic birds this year. (4) Email your list to me by midnight on Friday, June 30th. We'll have a party within a day or two to hand out prizes and have a good time.

That's simple, isn't it? Now here are a few tips: Do as much birding as possible during the first few days of the month. You're more likely to see lingering spring migrants that way. Purple Martins, Northern Rough-winged Swallows, and Orchard Orioles may complete their nesting and leave before the month's end, so get them early too. But don't neglect the last few days of the month either, because they've produced early fall-migrant Louisiana Waterthrushes, Black-and-white Warblers, and Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs.

Make several visits to Newnans Lake and other large bodies of water to scan for gulls, terns, and pelicans, which may come and go on a daily basis. Go to Longleaf Flatwoods Reserve for Bachman's Sparrows; San Felasco Hammock for Hooded Warblers; and Sweetwater Wetlands Park for Least Bitterns, Limpkins, and Purple Gallinules. There are over 100 species possible here in June (the record is 129). The first and last few hours of daylight are best. Birds tend to sing early in the morning.

Good luck to all of you who decide to join us! Again, let me know when you see an unexpected bird so I can pass the word. Don't keep it a secret – as I say, it's a friendly competition, based on our shared enthusiasm for birding rather than a desire to come in first.

By Rex Rowan

Alachua County's Trap, Neuter, Release Cat Program

As advocates for the protection of wild birds, the Alachua Audubon Society (AAS) is concerned with the high number of feral cats that are released to the streets of Alachua County by Alachua County Animal Control. Last year, roughly 3,000 semi-wild and unclaimed cats were trapped, neutered, and then released (TNR) back to the location where they were originally trapped. The tip of one ear of each TNR cat is clipped so it can be recognized from a distance as an unclaimed and sterilized cat. Although the cat can no longer reproduce, it still maintains a strong hunting instinct and will continue to catch and kill birds, especially the vulnerable ones that are roosting at night and the juveniles that have yet to fledge the nest.

Alachua Audubon is also concerned that since Alachua County is a designated no-kill county (i.e., they do not euthanize unwanted cats), and we are surrounded by multiple counties that do euthanize feral cats, that cat advocates from other counties seeking to spare unwanted cats and kittens from being euthanized, will release those cats to the streets of our no-kill county, further increasing Alachua County's outdoor cat population and their destructive effect on native wildlife.

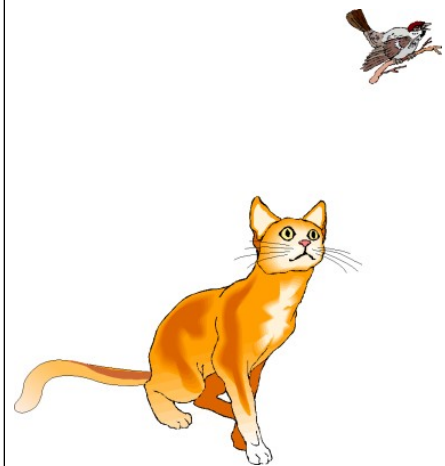
AAS has attended County Commission meetings and has met with representatives from Alachua County Animal Control, the Humane Society and Operation Catnip to develop ways in which we can collectively minimize the detrimental effects that feral cats have on native wildlife within Alachua County. Animal Control has been very receptive to AAS's concern that outdoor cats kill an alarming number of wild birds, and they have committed to implementing the initiatives that we have jointly identified as ways to reduce our county's outdoor cat population. The initiatives are:

1. Developing educational material that explains that cats should remain indoors and distributing this message on websites, as Public Service Announcements to newspaper and radio, and providing the information to all who adopt cats from the Humane Society.
2. Developing a county-wide map that identifies all parks, nature preserves, and other natural areas and agreeing to not release TNR cats in those areas.
3. Developing a "catio" tour (i.e., outdoor enclosed patios for cats) that demonstrates how cat owners can allow cats outdoors without the risk to native wildlife.

Alachua Audubon will continue to work as a stakeholder with these groups in an effort to educate the public on the detrimental effects that outdoor cats have on native wildlife.

By Debbie Segal and Anne Casella

Editor's Note: Many AAS members may be cat enthusiasts. I have my own cat that I originally let outside when he was first brought home 10 years ago. After getting in fights and being injured to the point of requiring expensive veterinary care, I decided to keep him indoors. With plenty of toys, scratching posts, and attention, he soon adjusted and now shows no particular desire to go outdoors. Although this is not the case with every cat, especially those who have spent most of their lives outdoors, any new kitten or cat brought into a home can become accustomed to being indoors. It is much safer for the cat as they are not exposed to other cats who may be sick or aggressive. They are also safer from vehicles, predators and parasites. Over time, we may have a happy, healthier population of indoor cats and fewer feral and outdoor cats. This could be a win-win solution for everyone, including the birds.



THE FEATHER ATLAS FLIGHT FEATHERS OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS

Did you know the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Forensics Lab has a feather atlas enabling you to identify a feather? This website promotes feather identification, research, and appreciation by providing high-resolution scans of the flight feathers of North American birds. Their website explains it as follows: "Identification of an unknown feather is a challenging process. Characteristics of the whole bird, as illustrated in field guides, are rarely helpful. Not only is the level of detail in field guides insufficient, but feathers from different parts of the bird often bear little resemblance to one another. For example, the outer wing feathers (primaries), inner wing feathers (secondaries), and tail feathers of a Mallard look completely different.

The Feather Atlas provides a search tool called "SEARCH FOR SIMILAR FEATHER" to facilitate the identification of unknown feathers. This identification strategy allows the user to

classify an unknown feather by two general attributes: pattern and color. Clicking on the 'SEARCH FOR SIMILAR FEATHER' tool calls up thumbnail-sized images of feather scans that match the selected pattern and color criteria. Final identification can be made by detailed comparison of the unknown feather with similar feathers based on pattern, color, size, and shape.

Remember that the Feather Atlas, with just a few exceptions, illustrates only the large flight feathers of the wing and tail, not body feathers. Therefore, the SEARCH FOR SIMILAR FEATHER tool won't help you identify small body feathers."

The Feather Atlas is a work in progress but has almost 400 feathers identified by species so far. Check it out at <https://www.fws.gov/lab/featheratlas/index.php>

Wednesday Morning Bird Walks at Sweetwater Wetlands Park

Meet AAS volunteers at 8:30 am every Wednesday from September – May to search for wetland birds such as Least Bittern, Limpkin, and Purple Gallinule at Sweetwater Wetlands Park. The park is teeming with plants and wildlife and improves water quality while providing one of the best birding spots in Alachua County. It is located on the south side of Gainesville, 3/4 of a mile east of the intersection of SW 13th Street/US-441 and Williston Road. Look for the sign on the south side of the road. We'll meet at the covered shelter by the restrooms. Note that May 30th will be the last walk until September.

Guided walks are free, but park admission is \$5/car. Bring binoculars, a hat, sunscreen and water. Please visit SweetwaterWetlands.org to learn more about the park.



AAS Attends Party for the Planet

Alachua Audubon representatives participated in the Santa Fe Zoo's "Party for the Planet" event on Earth Day weekend. Our goal was to educate adults about the activities of Alachua Audubon and to encourage families to bring their children to a guided bird walk the following weekend at the Zoo.

To encourage children to view our booth, new board member Brittany Kryder created a colorful and easy game where children could match a bird with its habitat and earn an animal sticker. It was a beautiful spring day and Brittany enjoyed talking with many families. Support from Kalli Pulkkinen, Debbie Spiceland, and Alicia Johansen was greatly appreciated.

by Emily Schwartz

Note: The [Santa Fe Zoo](#) is one of only two teaching zoos in the nation.

In Memory

Mrs. Marjorie Israel, the mother of longtime Alachua Audubon Society member Dr. Glenn Israel, recently passed away. The family was kind enough to name the AAS as a memorial recipient. We would like to thank the Israel family for this thoughtful remembrance. We offer our deepest condolences to Glenn and his family for their loss.

Global Big Day of Birding

The Cornell Lab Global Big Day of Birding happens on May 5th. How many birds can be seen in one day? That's the question that drives a "big day," a 24-hour birding binge that is a fond tradition among birders. You don't have to commit to all 24 hours—just an hour or even 10 minutes counts as participating. Cornell scientists will tally worldwide and for each country, the number of individual birds and the number of species that are seen on that day. Visit your favorite spot or search out someplace new; enjoy a solo walk or get some friends to join in the fun. Go to the [2018 Global Big Day of Birding](http://ebird.org/news/global-big-day-5-may-2018) at ebird.org/news/global-big-day-5-may-2018 to learn how to participate.



Trina Anderson and Alan Shapiro staffing the AAS display at the Kanapaha Spring Garden Festival.

SPEAKER'S CORNER

Programs are held at the Millhopper Library, 3145 NW 43rd Street, Gainesville.

Florida's Charismatic Microfauna, Wednesday, May 2. Socializing at 6:30; program at 7. Dr. Paul Molar will introduce a select few of the less familiar members of our local fauna.

A special thank you to the Millhopper Branch Library staff for displaying interesting library materials related to each topic of our speakers.

Note: AAS library programs will resume in September.



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Monthly Birds and Brews

The AAS Birds and Brews event continues to be a popular event for both new and experienced birders. Meet the first Sunday of the month at **First Magnitude Brewery**, 1220 SE Veitch Street. Arrive early as parking can be scarce. There will be an Alachua Audubon table set up and loaner binoculars will be available. On **May 6th** and **June 3rd** we will meet up at **5:45** for a **6:00 PM departure** to Depot Park. It is a lovely time of day for a leisurely stroll to look for birds around the ponds. Then we'll return to First Magnitude for an optional cold brew and good conversation. All birding skill levels welcome.

Next event: Sunday, May 6th at 5:45 pm



Bird Window Strikes

Spring migration season is upon us and millions of birds are passing through Florida, heading to their breeding grounds in the north. These migratory birds are appearing in urban, semi-urban, and rural areas looking for stopover habitat in which to rest, refuel, and prepare for their next flight. Because many stopover areas occur near buildings with windows, birds can collide with these windows and die from the impact.

You have probably heard the loud “whump!” as they careen into a window. The reason this happens is that clear windows are invisible to them or that windows reflect sky or adjacent forest patches and birds think they can fly through the reflection. Reflective windows are the most problematic; if you stand outside and look at your windows and you see a good reflection of the background behind or above you, most likely they will be a problem for migrating birds.

At the University of Florida, we have started a Bird Window Collision Project to monitor problematic buildings/windows and to provide solutions. Since early 2016, through a combination of student volunteers and using iNaturalist to report dead birds, we have recorded over 130 bird deaths for 20 different bird species. These collisions most often occur during the winter (primarily Cedar Waxwings) and during the

spring and fall migration seasons (primarily Neo-tropical migrants). We are trying to expand the monitoring throughout Gainesville. Please report dead birds from window strikes by going to the [UF Bird Window Collision Project](http://wec.ufl.edu/extension/wildlife_info/birdcollisions/index.php) (wec.ufl.edu/extension/wildlife_info/birdcollisions/index.php)

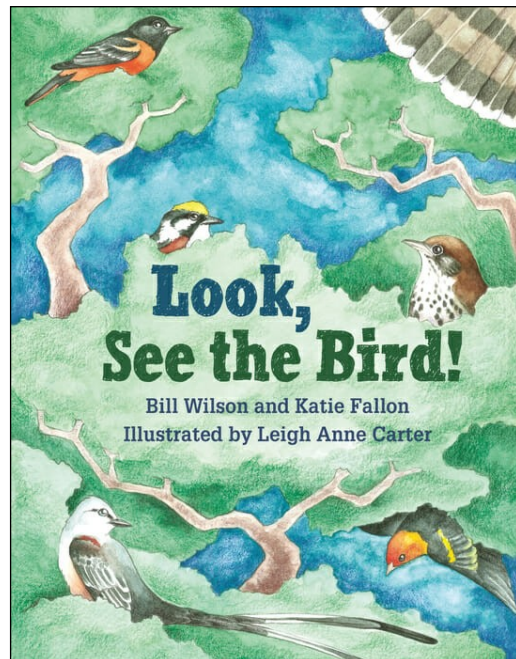
What can one do to prevent strikes? There are a variety of solutions that break up a window’s reflection (see abcbirds.org/program/glass-collisions/bird-friendly-window-solutions/). One that we recommend is [Acopian Birdsavers](http://www.birdsavers.com/). They are relatively cheap (a few dollars per window) and easy to install. One can even put them up temporarily. It involves paracord (a lightweight nylon rope originally used in parachutes), heavy duty outdoor Velcro, and Vinyl-J-Bead-Trim. The paracord is essentially hung every 4 inches across a window, and birds cannot fly between the paracord so they avoid the window. For more information about how to build, see www.birdsavers.com/. You can also contact Dr. Mark Hostetler at hostetm@ufl.edu.

By Mark Hostetler, Professor , Department of
Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
University of Florida

Look, See the Bird! is a hand-drawn, beautifully illustrated children’s book that follows children in a global variety of locations as they learn about local birds and their habits. It seeks to not only promote curiosity in children about the natural world around them, but also to establish a connection with nature and the importance of being good stewards of the earth and all its creatures.

Published by Hatherleigh Press, which encourages active and healthy lifestyles, involvement in family and community, earth-friendly choices, and mindful awareness of the interconnectedness of all things.

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Be sure to visit Alachua Audubon Society's Facebook page for regular updates on local birds, including the Federally Endangered Snail Kite that has been spotted at Sweetwater Wetlands Park.




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Around the County

(Continued from Page 2)

Marchionno found four in the same general area, including two adult males and at least one adult female. And one of these birds seemed to be carrying nesting material! Hopefully by the next issue of *The Crane*, we'll have more details on what could be a historic range expansion for these unique birds.

Short-tailed Hawk is another tropical species that has become more regular here over the last ten years. We have never been able to find evidence of nesting, but during recent breeding seasons they have been seen repeatedly in the same general locations. This year Geoff Parks reported one soaring above his house February 23rd and John Middleton photographed one (or the same) at Powers Park the same day. I staked out Powers Park exactly a month later specifically looking for this species and found one still present.

Several other interesting birds rounded out the winter season. Chris Burney spotted an Ash-throated Flycatcher February 17th at San Felasco Progress Center. The bird stayed in the same general area and was seen by many observers through late winter. The Whooping Crane that became a regular feature of Payne's Prairie over the last few years was dislodged by the high water level there and seemed to disappear for several months, but by the end of winter it became fairly settled on Tusawilla Prairie south of Micanopy. There seems to be a small local population of domestic or feral Canada Geese established in our area. Two recent reports came from around Orange Lake, and Trina Anderson photographed a pair March 29th flying over SWP. The western-breeding Dickcissel is always a prize bird here in winter. Gina Kent had a brief look at one March 14th at SWP. While driving down Hwy. 441 past Lake Wauberg April 4th, Debbie Segal spotted a locally-rare Brown Pelican over the lake. A strong cold front April 14th prompted Laura Gaudette and Peter Polshek to visit Newnans Lake where they were rewarded with *five* Brown Pelicans plus a Royal Tern!

Bill Alt reported a Shiny Cowbird March 4th at his feeders in west Gainesville. Bill also had multiple Painted Buntings visiting his yard. In addition to the "new normal" of wintering Summer Tanagers, the number of wintering Western Tanagers may also be increasing. Bubba Scales, who keeps close track of local feeders, mentioned he felt there could have been as many as five this year. We had at least five Wilson's Warblers through the season. Two different birds, male and female, were found along Cone's Dike. Another remained all winter behind Hume Hall on the UF campus. Gina Kent spotted one in her yard April 6th, and an adult male first discovered back in fall at Bolen Bluff was still present April 14th when Frank Goodwin was able to obtain a wonderful recording of it singing!

As I sat to write this, spring migration was just getting into full swing. Stay tuned to the next issue of *The Crane* for a recap of the season's best sightings. See you out there!

Thanks to those who shared their sightings through April 15th, 2018.

By Mike Manetz



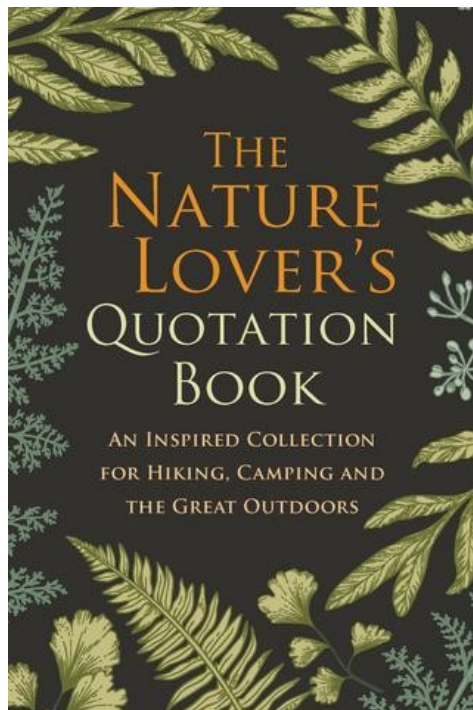
Photo of Snail Kite by Tom Tompkins

Jay Watch – Dedicated to Protecting Florida Scrub-Jays

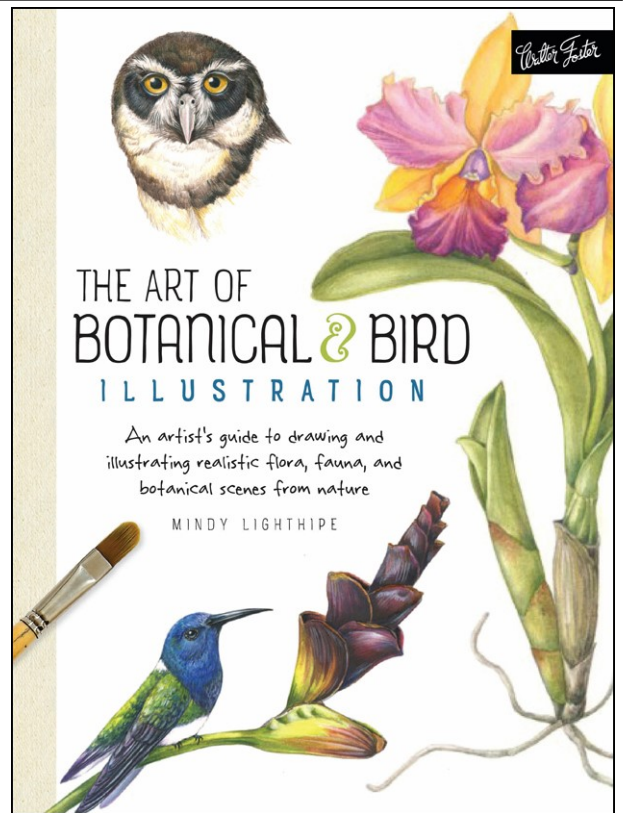
Audubon Florida coordinates the Jay Watch citizen science program statewide. We train and support volunteers to conduct scientific surveys that measure annual nesting success and count the total number of Florida Scrub-Jays at more than 46 sites in 19 counties. The success of the Jay Watch program, and the program's contributions to the recovery of Florida Scrub-Jays, depends upon dedicated volunteer citizen scientists like you, your family, and your friends.

Remarkably, in just 2017 alone, 267 volunteers invested over 2,600 hours sharpening their skills in onsite trainings and performing field surveys across the state.

Attend one of our onsite training sessions in 2018, to be held in nine counties across the Florida peninsula. 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. For more details or to register please contact Jacqui Sulek at sulek@audubon.org or visit fl.audubon.org/get-involved/jay-watch. Trainings take place in May.



The Nature Lover's Quotation Book collects quotes from artists, scientists, naturalists and philosophers on the profound influence of nature. The natural world can bring constancy and comfort in chaotic times. One of my favorite quotes: "At some point in life, the world's beauty becomes enough."— Toni Morrison. This book feels organic in the hand with its course paper and leafy black ink illustrations. It is also portable with its small size and light weight. Hatherleigh Press. Available wherever books are sold.



The Art of Botanical & Bird Illustration is a beautifully rendered book by local artist, author and teacher, Mindy Lighthipe. It serves as a guide for contemporary artists aspiring to master shape, color, and texture and render beautiful, realistic, and vibrant botanical and avian artwork. As an expert botanical artist, the author educates you about the tools and materials traditionally used in botanical and avian illustration, including pencils, colored pencils, watercolor, gouache, and pastels.

The book retails for \$19.99 and is available from Amazon. To learn more about the author, visit mindylighthipe.com/

Fun Family Bird Walk at Depot Park

Alachua Audubon members guided a large group of 26 parents and children who responded to an invitation posted at the Depot Park website on Saturday, March 10. We were delighted to have wonderful weather and eager participants. Along with the usual birds seen at this park, we were lucky to find some beautiful Hooded Mergansers still in town. Some participants were from a local scout troop and some from the science classes at Oak View Middle School in Newberry. One of the reasons the walk was so successful is that many Audubon members were present to chat with everyone and help them identify what they were seeing. Special appreciation is given to Bob Carroll who guided, and Brittany Kryder, Mike Brock, Barbara Brock, and Debbie Spiceland who helped.

by Emily Schwartz



Eastern Screech-Owl

Mr. Ed Okie of Ed Okie Photo-Graphics (Lake Wales, FL) was kind enough to share this lovely photograph of an Eastern Screech-Owl in its nest box. These small owls forage at dusk and at night for large insects and small rodents. They nest in tree cavities but will also use nest boxes. These owls are nesting in May and into June. Nest box plans and information may be downloaded from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Nest-Watch.org.

Photo Tech Specs:

Canon 5D Mk III, Canon 500mm lens, 1/320 f/5.6, ISO 800, tripod mounted, dark shade. Taken 4/6/2016.

Photo submissions to The Crane are welcome. Contact the Editor.

Alachua Audubon Society
P. O. Box 140464
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AlachuaAudubon.org

The Crane
May–June 2018

Join Alachua Audubon! Membership Application

Benefits of membership include expert-led field trips, programs for adults and youth, classes for beginning birders, *The Crane* bi-monthly newsletter, conservation advocacy with local and state legislators, and more.

Annual Membership Levels

Choosing a higher level provides additional support for our local chapter.

Student	\$10	Individual	\$15
Family	\$30	Limpkin	\$50
Purple Gallinule			\$100
Swallow-tailed Kite			\$250
Sandhill Crane			\$500
Whooping Crane*			\$1,000

(*bestows lifetime membership)

Please send your completed application with a check payable to
Alachua Audubon Society
to: 3242 NW 12th Terr., Gainesville, FL 32609

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

The Crane is distributed via email. Your email address will not be shared with other organizations.

Alachua Audubon (AAS) is an official chapter of **National Audubon** and **Audubon Florida**. If you belong to National Audubon and live in our area, you are automatically a member of AAS.

To join National Audubon, please go to AlachuaAudubon.org/Membership where you will be directed to their membership page.

Alachua Audubon is a 501(c)3 organization.

Audubon Membership Explained

To join Audubon at the local level, please complete the membership form to the left, or print a form at AlachuaAudubon.org/Membership. Choose the level that is appropriate for you. Mail the completed form with your check, payable to **Alachua Audubon Society**, to the address provided.

To join Audubon at the National level, go to AlachuaAudubon.org/Membership where you will be directed to their membership page. This site allows payment by credit card. Your introductory membership (\$20) will be credited to our local chapter and you will become an annual member of the National Audubon Society, Audubon Florida and Alachua Audubon, with one-year subscriptions to National *Audubon* magazine, Audubon Florida's *Naturalist* magazine, and Alachua Audubon's bi-monthly newsletter, *The Crane*.

Please send any questions to AlachuaAudubonMembership@gmail.com