

http://www.santafeaudubon.org

Santa Fe Audubon Society Melrose, FL

OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Santa Fe Audubon Society - Florida

SPEAKER SERIES PROGRAM "BATS" Tuesday OCTOBER 8

Tuesday, OCTOBER 8 speaker Donna Bear

6:45 PM at Trinity Episcopal Parish Hall 204 SR 26 downtown Melrose

You do not need to be a Santa Fe Audubon Society chapter member to attend our Speaker Series programs. All are welcome!

Join us for Donna Bear's program about Florida's bat species and the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens work with acoustic bat monitoring.



and



Donna Bear is the Curator of Species Management at the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens. She has worked at the zoo in various capacities since 1993, previously the Curator of Birds (and Bats). She has been a member of the Florida Bat Working Group since 2009. Though the main focus of her position is record keeping and

permits for the zoo, she is responsible for several local conservation involvements with FWC. She participates with the FWC long-term bat monitoring project as well as the Timucuan Shorebird Group. The local bird rookeries on zoo grounds are monitored by her and her staff. She works closely with USFWS for wood stork monitoring in Duval county. In 2012, she assisted the FLBWG president in putting on the 2012 Bat Blitz here in Florida.

Donna enjoys most things involving local conservation efforts and attempts to volunteer with bat projects as much as possible as well as assisting at the Jekyll Island Bird Banding Station as a volunteer every year. Donna enjoys encouraging her coworkers to participate in these events as well. She also enjoys kayaking and reading.

The safety of our membership is of upmost importance, we encourage everyone to wear a mask.

The safety and well-being of our membership and board members is our top priority; therefore, our in-person Speaker Series may be postponed or canceled on short notice due to health related concerns. Cancellation notifications will be sent out via email, posted on our website and Facebook page.

FIELD TRIP CONES DIKE for Fall Migration Saturday, OCTOBER 12

CONES DIKE at Paynes Prairie

Discover Gainesville's own "Big Sky" on a walk out into Paynes Prairie on the Cones Dike Trail, where we will hike up to 3 miles through the largest prairie in North Florida. Of all of the trails at Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park, Cones Dike is the one where you are most likely to see the herds of wild horses and bison that call the prairie home, while taking in a panorama from rim to rim. Approx. 2 - 3 hours

DIFFICULTY LEVEL 2 - May involve uneven terrain; 1-3 miles
PARKING FEE: \$6 PER VEHICLE

Meet at
Paynes Prairie Visitors Center Parking Lot
at 8:30 AM
100 Savannah Blvd, Micanopy, FL

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED FOR ALL FIELD TRIPS

to reserve your spot contact Celina Rohman virgil1946@att.net

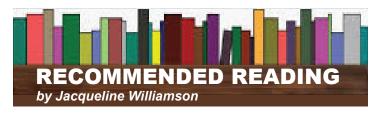
Reservations for each trip will be filled on a first-come first-served basis with waiting lists in case of participant cancellation. Please be sure to include the field trip name and date along with your name, phone number(s) and e-mail address, in case we need to notify you of any changes.

Field Trip Guidelines are on page 6.

We ask that all observe personal distancing and suggest bringing a mask for everyone's protection, in case it is needed.

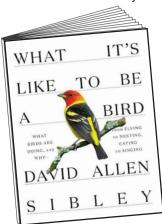
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WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE A BIRD

by David Allen Sibley



In What It's Like To Be A Bird, David Sibley answers frequently asked questions about the birds we see most often. This informative book is geared for both the novice birder and the bird obsessed. It includes over 200 species with 330 illustrations by the author.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

ETONIAH ROSEMARY SURVEY



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2024



Every year in October, a census is taken of every known specimen of this endangered species that occurs naturally nowhere else on earth. Volunteers needed, no prior experience or expertise is required. Wear clothes suitable for the weather and hiking in the woods. Meet at **8:30 AM** the Etoniah Creek State Forest Office.

If you would like to volunteer please contact Bill Chitty via email at bill.chitty@gmail.com

Halloween candy will be available & you don't even have to wear a costume.



BIRD OF THE MONTH

BARRED OWL (Strix varia)

band code "BADO"

The Barred Owl's hooting call, "Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you-all?" is a classic sound of old forests



and treed swamps. But this attractive owl, with soulful brown eyes and brown-and-white-striped plumage, can also pass completely unnoticed as it flies noiselessly through the dense canopy or snoozes on a tree limb. Originally a bird of the east, during the twentieth century it spread through the Pacific Northwest & southward into California.



COOL FACTS:

Barred Owls don't migrate, and they don't even move around very much. Of 158 birds that were banded and then found later, none had moved farther than 6 miles away.

For more information about Barred Owls visit: https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Barred Owl/overview#

Fur Fact: Barred Owls have many collectively nouns including "bazaar", "glaring", "parliament", "stooping" and "wisdom" of owls.

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UF IFAS UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Fall Horticulture Expo

Saturday October 19th 10am - 4pm

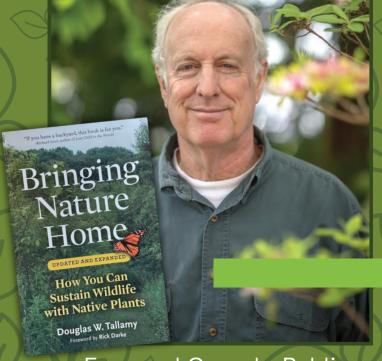
Keynote Speaker Doug Tallamy

Grow Your Own ...

Homegrown National Park
2 pm

Alachua County Agriculture & Equestrian Center, Newberry





- Free and Open to Public
- Fall Plant Sale
- Florida-Friendly
 Landscaping Ideas
- Learn About Insects
 Birds & More
- Food Trucks
- Children's Activities
- Ask A Master Gardener

" Regenerate Biodiversity -Plant Native! "

- Homegrown National Park

An Equal Opportunity Institution

SPECIAL EVENT!

BURNING FOR BIRDS LAND TOUR

We are pleased to invite you to an informative event to educate private landowners and the general public about the importance of prescribed fire, particularly growing season fire, and its positive effects on wildlife habitat, especially for bird species of concern like bobwhite quail. Hosted by the Putnam Land Conservancy and Alachua Conservation Trust partnership with Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Burning for **Birds** initiative.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- A tour of the burn unit at Little Orange Creek Nature Preserve, offering you a firsthand look at the benefits of regular controlled burning.
- Expert presentations on the science of prescribed burning and its benefits for bird populations.
- Practical demonstrations and discussions led by experienced professionals in land management and conservation.
- Opportunities to network with fellow landowners and conservationists.
- A light breakfast will be provided

WHAT TO BRING

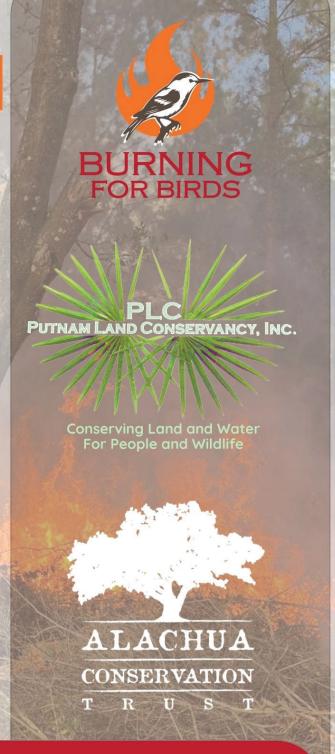
- · Comfortable walking shoes and weather-appropriate attire.
- Questions and enthusiasm about habitat management!

SPACE IS LIMITED! Please RSVP by November 6th for more information:



(386)336-5400

plc@PutnamLandConservancy.org



NOVEMBER

10AM-12PM LITTLE ORANGE CREEK NATURE PRESERVE

ACROSS THE STREET FROM LITTLE ORANGE CREEK NATURE PARK, 24115 SE HAWTHORNE RD, HAWTHORNE, FL 32640 LOOK FOR EVENT SIGNS!

ABOUT FIELD TRIPS

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED FOR ALL FIELD TRIPS

TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT EMAIL santafeaudubonfl@aol.com

When you make your reservation, please be sure to include your name, phone number and email and the number of participants.



- **BRING:** Water, binoculars, hat, sunscreen, rain gear and face covering.
- WEAR STURDY WALKING SHOES.
- SFAS has sanitized binoculars to loan.

We all must remember to maintain safe personal distancing.

We suggest you bring your face mask just in case it is needed. It is easy to forget during the excitement of bird watching.

Stay hydrated, be safe and have FUN!



BIRDING ETHICS

(including photography)

Practical guidelines that aim to mitigate the stress birds and their habitats face when humans intrude.

- · Leave pets home
- Bring binoculars
- · Mute cell phones
- Gently close vehicle doors
- Talk softly/whisper
- Keep bird call playback and pishing to a minimum.
- Walk quietly in woods (pick up feet)
- Avoid using a flash when taking photographs
- Keep your distance
- DO NOT flush or disturb birds (especially during spring nesting season)
- Stay on established trails
- Be alert for bird sounds/movements
- Coughing/sneezing? Stay away from group or, if possible, in vehicle
- · Respect other birders
- Wear earth tone color clothing, when possible
- Stay hydrated and safe