

EAGLE AUDUBON SOCIETY

P. O. Box 5813
Sun City Center, Florida 33571-5813

2022-2023



**PROGRAMS
FIELD TRIPS
SPECIAL EVENTS**

Eagle Audubon Mission

As a chapter of the National Audubon Society, we seek to increase interest and involvement in our local and state environment, its history, wildlife, preservation and restoration.

Visit our website at: <https://eagleaudubonflorida.org>

“Like” us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/eagle1984>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Julie Stocksdale (President)	727-418-5119 julie.stocksdale@gmail.com
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Joanne Finney (Secretary)	954-540-5985 finneyj1@aol.com
Donna Blaha	813-922-6555 donna.blaha@gmail.com

COMMITTEES

Camp Bayou's Butterfly Habitat	Coordinator Donna Carty	Volunteers
Conservation	Coordinator John Warbach	Dan Roberts
Field Trips	Board Members	Volunteers
Membership, Local	Julie and John Stocksdale	
Membership, National	Julie Stocksdale	
General Information	Board Members	
General Meeting Chair	Julie Stocksdale	
General Meeting Setup		
Historian	Chris Deno	
Hospitality	Nancy Danvers	Linda Couture + volunteers
Website	Steve Burkholder	
Brochure, Newsletter	Donna Blaha	
Publicity	Dana Ellerbrock	
Speakers	Coordinator John Warbach	Volunteers
Facebook	Anne Whitehall	Julie Stocksdale, Donna Blaha
Window-in-the-Woods	Vicky and Bud Bergeman	

EAGLE AUDUBON SOCIETY
Monthly Programs
2022-2023

We welcome you to our monthly programs. Our meetings take place in the Fellowship Room at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 1239 West Del Webb Blvd, Sun City Center. Meeting dates and times are listed below. The doors open at 1:00 PM for a social and sign-up time; the general public is invited. The meeting and program begin at 1:45 PM.

Note: We will follow current CDC guidelines and we ask for courtesy toward mask wearers.

Monday, October 17, 2022

Bird Photography
Ned Kuehn

Bird photography is challenging due to near constant movement of many of these critters. I will share many of my photographs with some photography tips along the way. This is mostly a bird photo essay of common to less common North American bird species.

Monday, November 21, 2022

Birding 101
Kate Bourduas

Kate will show us 80+ Florida Birds with identification tips.

Monday, December 19, 2022

Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)'s Surface Water
Improvement and Management (SWIM) Program
Ms. Jaime Swindasz, Staff Environmental Scientist

History of the SWIM Program, its priority water bodies, and examples of restoration projects

Monday, January 16, 2023

Nature Conservancy
Beth Lewis

Resilient Lands & Waters Strategy Director
the Florida Chapter of The Nature Conservancy

Beth will share information about our land and water protection work in Florida, some of our recent successes as well as the goals TNC Florida has set within the context of our recently completed Strategic Plan. Beth's work is focused on conserving a network of resilient and connected lands, oceans, and waters as this is critical for both carbon sequestration and for the preservation of biodiversity, by creating a connected landscape for wildlife to move and adapt to a changing climate.

Monday, February 20, 2023

Sun City Center Bluebird Project

Melanie Higgins, Project Manager, SCC Bluebird Project

This project demonstrates the impact of providing nesting boxes to birds who have lost their traditional nesting habitat of natural cavities.

Monday, March 20, 2023

Florida Sandhill Cranes
Barbara Walker
Moccasin Lake Nature Park

Come and learn about Florida Sandhill Crane populations, their life cycles and their sensitive habitats. Florida Sandhill Cranes easily meet the criteria for a threatened species. Their population has declined 37.5% since 1997 and 2 – 3 times more managed land is needed, primarily in Central Florida in order to meet guideline goals of increasing the population by 10%. It all starts with us, so please come and join us to discuss this well-loved species.

Monday, April 17, 2023

Halle Goldstein
Audubon Florida

Natural Climate Solutions: Audubon's Work Toward a More Resilient Florida
The Presentation will focus on Audubon Florida's Conservation Action Agenda, including their strategies for bird-friendly communities, coastal conservation, water, and working lands. It will also touch on the Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition which includes USF and area municipalities.



EAGLE AUDUBON SOCIETY
Field Trips and Events
2022-2023

Note: We do not charge for field trips unless our destination requires an entrance or tour fee, but a paid membership is required to participate in any field trip unless otherwise noted. For trips that are open to non-members, a liability form is required before or at the time of the trip. Trip leaders will have this form. You will be required to sign this liability waiver to participate. Trip leaders do not collect membership fees. If you wish to participate in a trip, contact the trip leader within 3 months of the date of the trip. We will ask if you need a ride for the trip or if you are willing to provide a ride. A gratuity to the driver is suggested.

General recommendations for bird-watching: walking shoes, cameras, binoculars, water, and sunscreen. Eagle Audubon will not be responsible for personal injuries or losses incurred by anyone while taking part in its suggested activities.

Note: We are following current CDC Covid guidelines, and we ask for courtesy towards mask-wearers.

Note: All costs are as of the printing of this brochure. Members will be notified if prices change.

TRIP DATE	TRIP TITLE	TIME	Trip Leader	DESCRIPTION
Wednesday, October 19	Suncoast Youth Conservation Center 6650 Dickman Road Apollo Beach	9:30 to Noon	John Stocksdale 813-841-7227	Kathy Guindon, Director Tour the SYCC and its various efforts toward sea turtle rehab, coral reef salvation, along with youth conservation education. Limit 30, Free parking, Easy walking
Wednesday, November 2	Fred & Ida Schultz Preserve 5906 Kraker Ave. Gibsonton	9:30 to 11:30	Julie Stocksdale 727-418-5119	John Lampkin, Docent John will help us identify butterflies while Julie will focus on plants, No limit. Open to non-members. Free, moderate hiking
Friday, November 4	Tiger Creek Preserve 674 Pfundstein Rd, Babson Park, FL	9:30 to Noon Break for lunch on-site Optional hike at 1:00	Julie Stocksdale 727-418-5119	Tiger Creek Preserve protects a critical connection for the rare habitats, plants, and animals in the Lake Wales Ridge, a national hotspot of biological diversity. This is a buggy ride tour. There are steps to climb to access the buggy. There are stops along the way for some walking. Limit 18 people. The cost is \$10.00. Bring your lunch.
Tuesday, November 15	Celery Fields, 6799 Palmer Road Sarasota	9:30 to Noon Lunch at Der Dutchman	Anne Whitehall 413-364-6948	This Sarasota Audubon property is a favorite birding spot for EAS trips. Easy walking, wheelchair accessible. Free, Limit 25 Meet at the restroom building in the parking lot.
Wednesday, November 30	Historic Spanish Point 337 N Tamiami Trail Osprey	9:30 to Noon Lunch at Casey Key Fish House	John Stocksdale 813-841-7227	This is a docent-lead tour of the 30-acre museum and environmental complex that includes an archeological exhibit, a pioneer homestead, nature trails, and more. Easy walking. \$20 per ticket. Limit 20
Wednesday, December 7	Seven Wetlands 500 W Carter Rd, Lakeland We will meet at the Loyce Harpe Park entrance at 10:00	10:00 to 11:30 Lunch TBA	Joanne Finney 954-540-5985	Van tour with Julie Vogel, an environmental program specialist. Optional side trip to phosphate museum. No limit. Free
Wednesday, December 14	Myakka River State Park 13208 SR 72, Bradenton	9:30 Meet at the boat area Food truck lunch at the park	Anne Whitehall 413-364-6948	Tram tour Cost \$20 for tram, \$6 car entry per car. Limit 30 Must be able to get on the tram.
Thursday, December 15	Hillsborough River State Park 15402 US-301 Thonotosassa	8:30 to Noon Meet at River Rapids Trail parking lot	Julie Stocksdale 727-418-5119	The River Rapids Trail is a good example of riparian and bottomland forest along with an unusual area of rapids on the Hillsborough River. Moderate hike. \$6 Park entry fee per car, exact change, Limit 25
Wednesday, January 18	Robinson Preserve 10299 9 th Ave. NW Bradenton	Meet in the parking lot at 8:30	Donna Blaha 813-922-6555 donna.blaha@gmail.com	We will be led on a 1-hour tour by a preserve employee. We should see white pelicans and some migratory ducks. Cost: \$3 per person, Limit: 20
Tuesday, January 24	Cockroach Bay Nature Preserve 3839 Gulf City Rd Ruskin	Meet in the parking lot at 9:00	Steve Burkholder 206-786-7618 steve@steveandjan.com	Moderate hiking, including a hill. Free No limit. Open to non-members Trip lasts 2.5 hours.
Tuesday, February 7	National Weather Service Weather Station 2525 14 th Ave SE Ruskin	9:45	Anne Whitehall 413-364-6948	Wheelchair accessible Limit 20 Free

Saturday, February 11	Sawgrass Lake Park 7400 25 th St N St Petersburg	9:30 to 11:30	Julie Stocksdale 727-418-5119	This urban park is an oasis of bottomland forest, creek, and lake. Wheelchair accessible, Observation tower optional. Free, Limit 20.
Tuesday, February 28	Exum's Honey Farm 1418 14th Ave S Ruskin	9:35	Anne Whitehall 413-364-6948	Meet at the honey farm. Wheelchair accessible. Limit 20. Free
Wednesday, March 8	Tampa Bay Watch 3000 Pinellas Bayway South Tierra Verde	8:45	Joanne Finney 954-540-5985	Boat tour with Eric Plage Must be able to step onto boat You will see shorebirds on the sandbars, terns, gulls, and other water birds. Limit 20. Cost is \$25. Lunch TBA.
Wednesday, March 22	Latitudes Boat Trip 580 Bahia Beach Blvd, Slip F10, Ruskin	Meet at 5:45 p.m. at the dock	Anne Whitehall 413-364-6948	Limit 22 Cost: \$36 for 2-hour sunset cruise
Wednesday, April 12	Fort DeSoto 3500 Pinellas Bayway S Tierra Verde	9:00 to Noon Meet in front of Flagpole at Park Headquarters	Steve Burkholder 206-786-7618 steve@steveandjan.com	\$5.00 Park Entry Fee along with road tolls. Accessible, no limit, Open to non-members Trip lasts 3 hours Come join us at this world-renowned birding site during the height of migration. Email me at steve@steveandjan.com and I'll send you a birding map of this fascinating jewel of Florida's parks.
Wednesday, April 19	Caladesi Island State Park Dunedin	Meet at 9:00 For a 9:30 Ferry from Honeymoon Island Park to Caladesi	Joanne Finney 954-540-5985	Caladesi Island with a boat trip. Recommend carpooling. \$8:00 entry fee per car to Honeymoon Island State Park + \$16 per person ferry cost. A park ranger will show us a portion of the park. You can bring lunch or there is a snack bar and tables. There are restrooms on the Island. There is a four-hour limit on Caladesi Island, so at the latest, you can leave it on the 2:00 ferry. Limit 20.

HAPPY BIRDING!
Tuesday Birding with Jan and Steve

When: Tuesdays November 15, 2022, through February 28, 2023

Exceptions: December 6th and December 13th

Time: 9:00 through 11:00 Weather permitting

Where: Meet in the parking lot in front of the main (North) Kings Point Clubhouse.

To enter through the gate, tell the guard you are part of the Audubon Tuesday Field Trip.

What: Easy walking trips in the area for beginning birding identification.

We will occasionally walk from the parking lot and take a golf cart or even a car. I'll send out an email a day before giving location information, weather forecast, and other pertinent details. Open to non-members. If you want to be on the mailing list, send me an email at steve@steveandjan.com.



Eagle Audubon Society (EAS) Conservation Committee 2022

Conserving natural bird and other wildlife habitats is part of the mission of EAS. EAS conservation activities have included letter writing and volunteering at Audubon-related projects: Window in the Woods, the Butterfly Habitat, and the Sun City Center Nature Trail. EAS has also brought in speakers to address plantings for birds, pond ecology, and other conservation topics.

The EAS Board re-activated a Conservation Committee in 2019 to further the mission of the Chapter to the conservation of wildlife and other natural resources. The purpose of the Conservation Committee is to bring information about local, state, and federal conservation efforts of the Audubon Society, other non-profits, and government to EAS members. With such information, EAS members may choose to discuss those efforts among themselves or with non-members. They may also choose to take part in on-the-ground activities, contribute time or money, and write to comment on those efforts.

We recognize that there are numerous opportunities to help support Florida Preserves, Parks, and natural areas, Environmental agencies, legislatures, and commissions enact or carry out rules that affect natural areas and an informed public can help guide the development and implementation of those rules. In the months to come, please look for ways you can help the EAS Conservation Committee fulfill the conservation mission of EAS.

John Warbach, Vice President, Eagle Audubon Society: warbach@comcast.net

Completion of Florida “Plants for Birds” Project in Kings Point

The Eagle Audubon Society received a grant for the Florida “Plants for Birds” Project that was funded by the Florida Audubon Society and Florida Power and Light. In addition to those funds, the Kings Point Master Association matched the grant.

The Kings Point Pond Committee consulted with the Hillsborough County Cooperative Extension and SWFWMD who then sent speakers to educate Kings Point residents. Visibility, need, and acceptance by residents were the factors that helped us to select the ponds. Duck Potato and Pickerelweed (native plants with the highest survival rate, best appearance, and least maintenance) were chosen. Water testing was completed on the seven ponds considered for plantings. All seven were approved by the Master Association.

The plantings were completed on June 15, 2022. Purchasing and planting the bare root plants was \$5,000 (\$2,500 for our EAS grant and \$2,500 for the Kings Point Master Association).



Peter Simoes, Solitude project manager, Jerry Brinlee, Anne Whitehall, Dave Magruder all EAS members and pond committee members and John Stocksdales, EAS board member

Window in the Woods

Bud and Vicky Bergeman have enjoyed their time handling the care and volunteer signups for WITW for several years but would like to see someone else volunteer to take over the position. Contact Vicky for any questions. 4budvic@gmail.com.



Butterfly Habitat

at the Camp Bayou Outdoor Learning Center in Ruskin

The Butterfly Habitat is full of a large variety of Florida native plants that attract our local native butterflies as nectar and host plants. Each type of butterfly requires a specific host plant on which the female lays her eggs, and many, including Zebra Longwings, Gulf Fritillaries, Giant Swallowtails, many Sulphurs and Skippers, Buckeyes and Monarchs have found their host plants there. To attract a diversity of butterflies, it is also necessary to offer native plants with a variety of flower colors and shapes from which they can feed on the nectar.

Through the years, we choose our native plants carefully, and strive to keep them growing and blooming...currently, 25 different host plants and over 60 native plant varieties in all. Our garden was created to be a teaching tool for the many school groups that come to Camp Bayou for environmental education, and for the general public who are often motivated to include native plants in their own yards.

Below is a sampling of flowers in many colors and shapes that are now blooming in the Butterfly Habitat. August is our peak blooming season, and the butterflies and many other important pollinators are busy and buzzing all around. Come visit soon and enjoy a delightful stroll through the garden. And if you would like to join our delightful volunteer garden crew of EAS members, contact Donna at 813-938-3164.



Butterfly Pea



Dotted Horsemint



Firebush



Maypop
Passion Flower Vine



Partridge Pea



Stokes Aster



October 20 to 23, 2022

The festival, headquartered at TECO's Manatee Viewing Center in Apollo Beach, and sponsored in part by Eagle Audubon, coincides with the peak migration of more than 180 species and features expert-led field, bus, and boating trips to the best wildlife sites in West Central Florida.

The festival also will offer two days of Zoom broadcast seminars, where experts will cover topics such as sharks, butterflies, manatees, kestrels, and hummingbirds. Keynote speakers this year are Stephen Shunk, with the topic "Woodpeckers: Florida's Keystone Carpenters" and Carl Safina, speaking on "Beyond Wild: Thought, Emotion, and Culture in Birds and Other Animals."

A Nature Expo on Friday, Oct. 21, and Saturday, Oct. 22, at the Manatee Viewing Center will feature displays from numerous environmental organizations, nature-related businesses, and artists. Exhibitors will offer for sale artwork, binoculars, bird boxes, and other products for nature lovers. There will be a silent auction each day.

Hillsborough County Conservation and Environmental Lands Management Department have partnered with the festival to provide guided field trips at some of our most popular birding sites! To register for this exciting event, visit the Florida Birding and Nature Festival website below.

[Florida Birding & Nature Festival \(floridabirdingandnaturefestival.org\)](http://floridabirdingandnaturefestival.org)

Visit our website at: <https://eagleaudubonflorida.org>

The Eagle Audubon Society is a 501c-3 organization
#85-8012681268.
We gratefully accept any donations or bequests.

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Eagle Audubon Society

YEARLY MEMBERSHIP \$15 PER PERSON – OCTOBER 1 – SEPTEMBER 30

Please complete the following information 2022-2023

Name(s) _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email address _____

Areas of interest (feel free to add comments on the back of this form):

Conservation _____ Trip coordination/leading _____ Speaker _____ Window in the Woods _____

Butterfly Habitat _____ Meeting snacks _____ Christmas Bird Count _____

Fundraising/grant writing _____ Membership _____ Promotion _____

Please mail the completed membership form and check for \$15.00 per person payable to Eagle Audubon Society to: Julie Stocksdale, 256 Silver Falls Dr, Apollo Beach, FL 33572

If you wish to make an additional contribution to EAS, it would be greatly appreciated. You can leave it undesignated, in which case we will use it for general operating expenses; or you can designate it for one of our programs, such as Window in the Woods or the Butterfly Habitat. EAS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity.

LIABILITY AND PHOTO-RELEASE

By this agreement, I the undersigned, have voluntarily applied to participate in field trips sponsored by the Eagle Audubon Society. I expressly assume the risk of any harm that might occur directly or indirectly from travel to and from the field trip site and from any harm that might occur directly or indirectly from any forces of nature or wildlife that I may be exposed to that cause me injury.

In addition, on behalf of myself and my assignees, heirs, personal representative, and legal representative, in consideration of the opportunity to participate and attend the field trips organized by the Eagle Audubon Society and being eighteen (18) years of age or older, I hereby agree to release and hold harmless the Eagle Audubon Society, and the National Audubon Society.

I grant the Eagle Audubon Society, its representatives, and members the right to take photographs of me and my property in connection with field trips or other activities of the Eagle Audubon Society. I authorize the use of the same in print and/or electronically.

Member Signature _____ Date _____

Member Signature _____ Date _____