



The Limpkin Call

The newsletter of the Oklawaha Valley Audubon Society, a chapter of Audubon Florida and the National Audubon Society and a not-for-profit organization.

Published a minimum of four times a year.

PO Box 268, Eustis, FL 32727-0268

<https://oklawaha-valley-audubon.org/>

OklawahaAudubon@gmail.com

VOLUME XXXVIII

September—October 2021

Number 1

President's column

Happy Fall Ya'll... Yes, I know it's still August and 93 degrees out...

Though, we will soon have cooler days with our feathered friends arriving soon... :)

With it brings a new season for us... Michele, and Peg have been diligently working this summer to put together a fantastic year of programs and field trips for our lovely members. Great news... We will be bringing back our brochures for everyone to have. Just stick it up on the fridge, and look at it when you want to.

THE MEANING OF BIRDING...

After reading this title I am sure you are envisioning a birder climbing through sago palms and tall grass into the unknown searching for the wise old all-knowing all seeing sage who dwells high up on top of the tree. They only stop on that gallant quest to check EBIRD for a moment as they search for their lifelong pursuit to finding the true meaning of birding.

Of course if that birder ever managed to finally meet the wise old sage their answer to that question would be as different, diverse and unique as the birds of the world... While this question is most often asked by curious non-birders, I think the so called "new normal" of birding even birders themselves have become more retrospect and are discovering that birding for them may have a deeper more personal meaning than ever before. So in our wonderfully diverse multi-cultural world of birders I thought I would ask the eternal question, What does birding mean to you?

For me... It has given me a chance to connect to the nature around us in an urban environment. More importantly for me though I've gotten to share this with

my family during these Covid times, especially when we couldn't go anywhere. It gave us an alternative rather than being away from home. My Dad and Mother-in-Law can identify some birds by sight and even by call and they get so excited when they see one.

A few things to share with everyone... We have a wonderful trip planned with Beck Smith & Gallus Quigley from Archaeopteryx Birding and Nature Tours. The trip is February 5-11th, and is \$2145.00. This price includes a \$100.00 donation to OVAS. The trip starts in Fort Lauderdale with a ferry boat ride to Grand Bahama Island. While on the island here are some highlights: visiting the Garden of the Groves, Eastern Pine Forest, and touring the island looking for the Bahama Woodstar with many more adventures awaiting.

A friendly reminder about our yearly membership dues which are \$20 for the household or individually. Our FY is July 2021 to June 2022. If you have not renewed we would love for you to do so...

Lastly, we will be having our first program meeting on September 12, 2021—What I Did Last Summer; meeting will be outdoors at my home in Eustis. Please bring a chair, insect repellent, and your iPad or other electronic device, to view the presentation. September field trip will be September 22 at the Tavares Nature Park; then brown bag lunch on the lawn at Clyde and Phyllis Stephen's home.

Cheers,

Stacey

At-a-Glance

Sep 12, 2021 2 pm—Program: "What I did Last Summer"

Sep 22, 2021 9:30 am—Field Trip: Tavares Nature Park

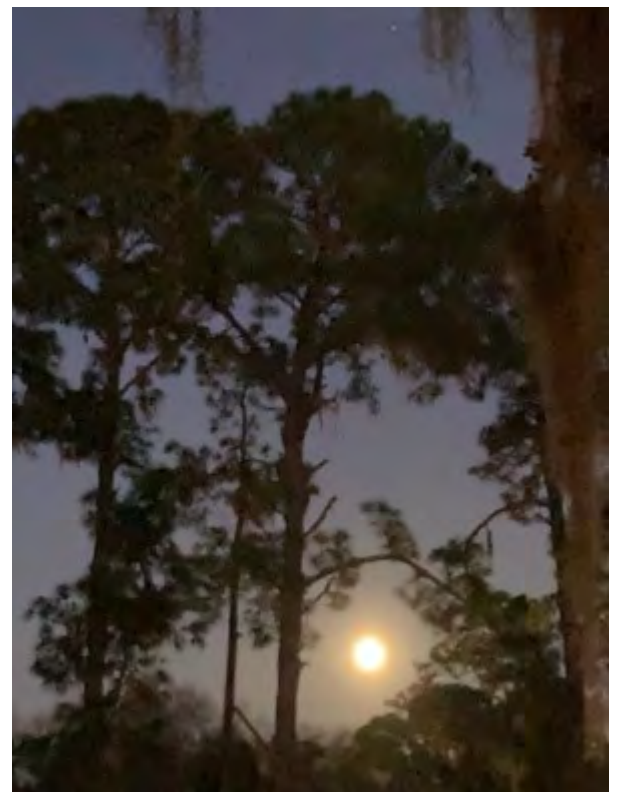
Oct 3, 2021 2 pm—Program: Environmental and Wetland Restoration

Oct 9 & 10—The Big Sit!

Nov 7, 2021 2 pm—Program: Panel Discussion

Dec 2-6, 2021—Festival: North Shore Birding Festival

Photo by Peg Urban



PROGRAMS

Our monthly programs are held on the first Sunday of the Month, at 2:00pm, either in person or perhaps on Zoom, and usually at Trout Lake Nature Center, unless indicated otherwise. Bring a chair for our outdoor meetings.

“What I Did Last Summer”

Sunday, September 12th, at 2:00 pm

After the success of last year’s program “What I Did Last Summer” we decided to do it again this September to kick off our year of OVAS programs.

Please submit two or three of the photos you’ve taken this summer, along with a short introduction of who you are and the subject your pictures. Include at least one picture of yourself along with pictures of your garden, your travels, your birding, or other activities you’d like to talk about.

Please email Peg with your pictures at pegcondor@embarqmail.com by September 5th.

Peg will compile our pictures, and create a PowerPoint for us to all to download and view on our mobile devices. This gives everyone a front row seat to the amazing images shared. It also gives us a chance to get to know each other better.

Stacey, our chapter President is generously hosting us again this year in her backyard, 113 Burrell Rd Eustis, just around the corner from the Trout Lake Nature Center.

Don't forget to bring a camp chair and refreshments for yourself.

Everyone is welcome, we'd love to meet you!



Long Tailed Skipper photo by Stacey Kelly

Gopher Tortoise photo by Peg Urban



Green Infrastructure for the birds, the bees, the climate, and the water resources of central Florida

Sunday, October 3rd, 2pm

At Trout Lake Nature Center

Dr Jason Evans from Stetson University.

This talk will provide a detailed introduction into the concept of “green infrastructure,” with special focus on conservation and restoration of natural wetlands, along with the use of native plant-based landscaping in urban and suburban environments. Various examples of successful green infrastructure interventions in the greater Ocklawaha/St. John’s watersheds will be discussed, along with some tips for avoiding and removing some of the barriers that green infrastructure projects can sometimes face at the beginning stages. The talk will conclude with some take home ideas for instituting green practices into each of our own yards, gardens, and common community spaces.

Jason Evans is an interdisciplinary systems and landscape ecologist who works in the interfaces between human and natural systems. Most of his current research projects involve collaborations with local governments along the southeastern U.S. coast to develop vulnerability assessments and policy recommendations for floodplain management and sea-level rise adaptation.

Another body of Evans's research has focused on land cover change, wildlife habitat and life cycle assessments for bioenergy systems (including ethanol, biogas, and wood pellets) across the U.S. Evans also has extensive experience and interest in the ecology, management and restoration of Florida springs ecosystems.

In addition to his teaching and research appointment at Stetson, Evans serves as the Co-Editor-in-Chief for the Journal of Environmental Management, one of the world's most highly ranked publications within the fields of environmental engineering, planning, and assessment.

<https://www.stetson.edu/other/faculty/jason-evans.php>

Panel Discussion

November 7th, 2 pm at Trout Lake Nature Center

We join groups like the Audubon hoping to make a difference, but often how that translates into action remains elusive to many. In November we will be hosting a panel discussion addressing the ways we can become more active in our communities. Our panel will provide real world testimony about actions they have taken and suggestions on how we as members can make a positive difference in our community through our Audubon chapter. Bring your questions. Volunteering can be rewarding and takes many forms. Maybe there are ways you can make a difference that you haven't even imagined yet. None of us have to be passive in this changing world, we can make a real difference in simple ways.

From the National Audubon Society:

"The birds Audubon pledges to protect differ in color, size, behavior, geographical preference, and countless other ways. By honoring and celebrating the equally remarkable diversity of the human species, Audubon will bring new creativity, effectiveness and leadership to our work throughout the hemisphere.

In order to achieve these goals, Audubon has made equity, diversity, and inclusion a strategic imperative. Protecting and conserving nature and the environment transcends political, cultural, and social boundaries. Respect, inclusion, and opportunity for people of all backgrounds, lifestyles, and perspectives will attract the best ideas and harness the greatest passion to shape a healthier, more vibrant future for all of us who share our planet. We are committed to increasing the diversity of our



Young Birder photo by Dennis O'Neil

staff, board, volunteers, members, and supporters, and fostering an inclusive network of Audubon Centers and Chapters in all communities, from rural to urban. We respect the individuality of each member of our community, and we are committed to a workplace free of any kind of discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, national or ethnic origin, politics, or veteran status." <https://www.audubon.org/about/edi>

OVAS agrees with this goal. Our mission, envisioning a world where people and wildlife thrive, is in line with the strategic imperative of EDI, and we would like to take action to ensure the community we serve, our membership, and the board, is as diverse as our county and welcoming to all.

We hope to increase our EDI locally by offering an after school program at the Eustis Community Center this school year. Reaching out to young people from all walks of life gives them an opportunity to feel at home in the outdoors and welcome in the birding community.

Our panel discussion is another way we hope to equip our current members with the tools to reach out and make a difference, making the effort to include people who have not traditionally considered themselves potential Audubon chapter members.

You can join us in broadening our outreach! Please contact Michele (Michele.Cotty.Audubon@gmail.com) the chapter's 1st Vice-President with any ideas you may have or to volunteer your time to help with this strategic imperative. Don't worry if you don't know how best to help, standing up to volunteer is the first step! We need you.

Northern Harrier @ Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive

Photo by Alex Chester



Our monthly programs are held on the first Sunday of the Month, at 2:00pm, either in person or perhaps on Zoom, and usually at Trout Lake Nature Center, unless indicated otherwise. Bring a chair for our outdoor meetings.

Oklawaha Valley Audubon Birding and Wildlife Tour of Grand Bahama Island

February 5-11, 2022

We have a Caribbean adventure waiting for you this February 2022! What a better time of year to escape and end up in a tropical paradise? We'll be staying at the luxurious Island Seas Resort featuring two restaurants on the property, a bar, hot tub, and its own private beach. The resort is centrally located in Freeport, on Grand Bahama Island. This tour will not have any strenuous hiking. Instead relax in the beautiful Garden of the Groves where wintering Blackpoll Warblers abound. Other frequent avian visitors to the garden include Loggerhead Kingbird, Gray Kingbird, Cuban Pewee, Greater Antillean Bullfinch, Least Grebe, Cuban Emerald, Smooth-billed Ani, Thick-billed Vireo, and many wintering warblers. Bahama Mockingbird is sometimes seen around the island from the cruise port to Paradise Cove. Established populations of Peach-faced Lovebird can be seen in the market square. The eastern side of the island will produce Bahama Warbler, Western Spindalis, Red-legged Thrush, and Olive-capped Warbler. Here is a breakdown of the daily activities for this tour:

February 5th—Carpool and drive to south Florida and stay the night at the Rodeway Inn and Suites Fort Lauderdale with cruise port shuttle

February 6th—Begin from Fort Lauderdale at 9 am and take the ferry to Grand Bahama Island, it arrives at 1 pm. We'll get to the market square in Freeport, have lunch, and look around for the Rosy-faced Lovebirds that live at the market. Then we'll arrive at Island Seas Resort, and have dinner at the local \$2 Bar.

February 7th—The Garden of the Groves. The Garden is a beautiful botanical garden complete with butterfly garden and literature on the birds of the garden. It's a great location to get familiarized with the more common bird species of the Bahamas. We should see Red-legged Thrush, Hairy Woodpecker, La Sagre's Flycatcher, Ringed Teal, Greater Antillean Bullfinch, Black-whiskered Vireo, Smooth-billed Ani, White-crowned Pidgeon, Cape May Warbler, Cuban Emerald, Western Spindalis, Northern Waterthrush, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Least Grebe, Loggerhead Kingbird, and Thick-billed Vireo. Eat lunch at the garden.

February 8th— Eastern Pine forest. We should see Olive-capped Warbler, Pine Warbler, Bahama Warbler, and Black-faced Grassquit. In the afternoon, we'll visit the Emerald Gold Course for White-cheeked Pintail, and other waterfowl. Then by evening, we'll stop by the Bahama Birder's BnB for the Bahama Woodstar.

February 9th—Explore the island to look for Bahama Yellowthroat, White-cheeked Pintail, and Bahama Mockingbird. Stop at the Sands Brewery for tour and tasting on Bahamian local beers, the International Bazaar for lunch, and the famous Fish Fry at Smith Point for dinner.

February 10th—Explore the island for Bahama Woodstar during the day. We may find them at Erika Gates' Garden. We'll have plenty of time to enjoy the beach in the afternoon, or stop at the marketplace for shopping. Return to Fort Lauderdale Thursday evening. We'll plan to spend another night at the Rodeway Inn and Suites because the boat gets in very late.

Anyone interested in nature will fall in love with the Bahamas if you have never been here before. There is so much natural habitat, the people are so welcoming, and the food is amazing! Vegetarians will enjoy a common Bahamian dish of pigeon peas and rice and seafood lovers will appreciate the fried conch. Price for this tour will be \$2145 per person/double occupancy (\$500 single supplement), including a \$100 donation to our chapter. This price includes resort stay, speed boat trip out to the island from Fort Lauderdale, transportation around the islands, entry fees to parks and gardens, professional guides, and daily ebird checklists. It does not include your transportation to Fort Lauderdale, food/drinks, or tips. Minimum group size in 4 persons and maximum group size is 8.

We'll be as careful as possible in terms of COVID. We'll wear masks in the vehicle and everyone should have proof of at least the original vaccination(s) (we'll have to determine as the time gets closer how available the booster will be). We may also still be required to have proof of a negative COVID test to get back into the United States. These tests are not covered by US insurance policies and cost around \$100, and this is not included in the tour price.

*We do our best to accommodate all reasonable requests to make sure you are as comfortable as possible throughout the tour.

**At this time, travel between islands of the Bahamas is restricted due to Covid-19. Should travel by ferry open up by the time of the tour, we may spend one or two days on the island of Abaco to look for the Cuban Parrot, Bahama Swallow, and West Indian Woodpecker.

Please email archaeopteryxtours@gmail.com or call 609-553-0757 for more information.

Red-legged Thrush



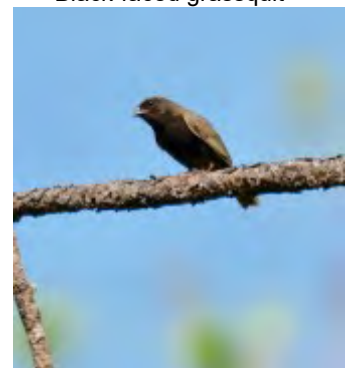
Olive-capped Warbler



Greater Antillean Bullfinch



Black-faced grassquit



The Big Sit! 2021

October 9th and 10th, 2021

McDonald Canal Boat Ramp, 24600 County Road 448A, Mount Dora, FL 32757

This year our chapter will again participate in THE BIG SIT!, a semi-competitive event held round the world since its inception in 1992 by the New Haven CT Bird Club.

Participants sit within a 17-foot circle and count all the species they can see and identify from within the circle. No-one needs to stay all day. We can come and go at any time, but one person must remain within the circle at all times (well, overnight is not required.) I've chosen Saturday October 9th at the McDonald Canal Boat Ramp for our chapter event. It's central to Lake County, has an impressive bird list, has paved parking, restroom facilities and a covered pavilion.

So, if you want to participate, sign up and tell us what time slot(s) you would like to cover. You can leave and come back. Invite your friends.

When you sign up on OVAS website to participate, you'll need to indicate what time of day you want to come. Please include your phone number as well, because we're going to limit participation to 6 at any one time within the pavilion, to ensure safe social distancing. If too many people sign up for the same time slot, we'll have to telephone you and request that you choose an alternative time slot.

If we get enough enthusiasm for this event, we'll continue on Sunday as well.

Now, here's the fun part. If you want to compete against our circle at the McDonald Canal Boat Ramp, you can set up your own location and team. Say, your back yard has several feeders and a variety of species visit your feeders – well, you can have your own Big Sit! from your back porch. See if you can spot more species than we do.

For more information and the "rules of the game" visit <https://www.thebigsit.org/>

A safety reminder from the New Haven Bird Club:

On the weekend of The Big Sit! We may still be in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. First priority for all participants should be protecting the health and well-being of themselves and the general public. Please follow all local, state, and federal health policies and guidelines.

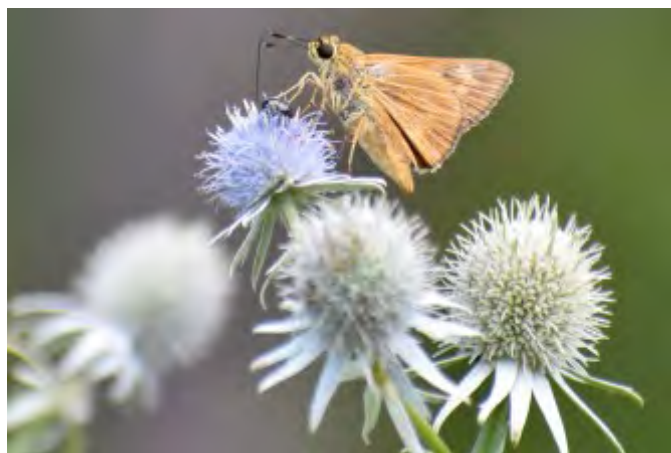
We strongly recommend that all circle participants wear cloth face coverings or masks, and practice "social distancing" by maintaining at least 6 feet (2 meters) between participants; that is the wingspan of a Bald Eagle. There has never been a limit on how many people can be in your circle at once, but if many people are interested in participating, you may want to create a sign-in sheet with assigned time slots. We ask circle coordinators and captains to limit the number of people in your circle.

Stay safe!



Barred Owl photo by Alex Chester

Field Trips are subject to change due to weather or other circumstances. Please contact the trip leader to confirm a space and for more information, including carpooling instructions. For most trips you will need outdoor shoes, insect repellent, sunscreen, a hat, raingear or jacket, binoculars (of course), water, and a snack or lunch. We suggest a donation of \$10/ adult for each field trip for OVAS members and \$15/adult for non-members; children are free. Actual costs, such as entry fees, etc., are separate, and are noted in each write-up. Check our website for updated information and to register, and to view photos from recent field trips. Depending on the number of participants, we may use the pod concept to limit group size. If you have questions about field trips, please contact Peg Lindsay at peg26805@icloud.com



Byssus Skipper on Eryngium Aquaticum (Corn Snakeroot)

Photo by Stacey Kelly

Joint Field Trip
Lake Beautyberry chapter FNPS and OVAS
Tavares Nature Park
9:30 AM September 22nd
followed by lunch on the lawn at the home of Clyde and Phyllis Stephens

Tavares Nature Park, 1551 Milwaukee Ave., Tavares, FL 32778

Meet up by 9:15 at the Nature Park parking lot and be ready to hike by 9:30. The weather should be a bit milder for our hike, with temperatures in the high 70s. We plan to bird as we hike our way from the parking lot to the dock on Lake Dora. We will botanize on the way back to the parking lot. Peg Lindsay and Lavon Silvernell will be co-leaders.

The hike will end around 12 or 1230. From the Nature Park we will caravan to the home of Clyde and Phyllis Stephens. This may be complicated because they can only accommodate 4 vehicles for parking, and we're all wary of COVID. We will have to arrange where to leave cars as well as whose cars get to carry extra people and park at the Stephens homestead. They live on the eastern shore of Lake Harris where many large and old Cypress and Pine trees call their yard home. It's a great place for bird watching. We will probably eat at tables set up on the dock, but you are welcome to enjoy your BYO brown bag lunch inside their screen room which faces the water.

Remember to be respectful of their home.

If you have NOT been vaccinated for COVID, wearing a mask is REQUIRED.

Because we will be going to a private home following the hike, signup is required. Contact Peg Lindsay pegcondor@embarqmail.com or via text at 352-348-9258. Text is preferred. (Please don't leave a cell phone message as she seldom listens to them.)

Lavon can be reached at lavonsilvernell@gmail.com or 352-223-4761.

[You are Invited to the 2021 Audubon Florida Assembly!](#)



From the forests of north Florida to the mangroves of the Everglades, from the bald cypress stands in Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary to the living shorelines of the Tampa region, Florida relies on its natural resources for resilience in the face of a changing climate.

Our Assembly field trips shed light on Natural Climate Solutions in the Sunshine State.

[Learn more about field trips here.](#)

To advocate for Natural Climate Solution protection and restoration, this year our Audubon Florida Assembly will journey across the state to experience these unique ecosystems with three in-person events, linked together with virtual presentations on our successes and path forward.

Oct. 23 | Enjoy a field trip followed by a networking lunch at UF/IFAS North Florida Research and Education Center – Suwannee Valley. To register [click here.](#)

Oct. 30 | Enjoy a field trip followed by a networking lunch at the Audubon Center for Birds of Prey in Maitland. To register [click here.](#)

Nov. 6 | Take a tour of the boardwalk at Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary in Naples. Includes dinner. To register [click here.](#)

Don't want to attend an in-person event? No problem! [Click here](#) to register for the virtual-only events.

ASL and Spanish interpretation are available by request on the registration page.

The Archbold Biological Station has given permission to organization newsletters to share links to their videos as they are currently closed to the public due to the continued threat of COVID-19.

<https://www.archbold-station.org/>

This brings up a couple of questions:

- 1) What is a biological station? A biological station is a scientific resource for field study of the natural environment. The Archbold Biological Station, lying within the headwaters of the Everglades in south central Florida, is one of the most renowned in the world.
- 2) Who is Archbold Biological Station? Established in 1941 Archbold Biological Station is a 501c3 not-for-profit independent research institution. The Station is dedicated to long-term ecological research, part of the global effort to understand, interpret and preserve the world's natural heritage. Archbold Biological Station (5,193 acres) and the Archbold Reserve (3,648 acres) together comprise a 8,840-acre globally-significant preserve, located in the Florida scrub, one of the most distinctive natural habitats in the United States. Archbold Biological Station (5,193 acres) and the Archbold Reserve (3,648 acres) together comprise a 8,840-acre globally-significant preserve, located in the Florida scrub, one of the most distinctive natural habitats in the United States.



Lake Apopka North Shore

Photo by Stacey Kelly

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/ArchboldExpeditions>

Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/archboldstation>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ArchboldBiologicalStation/>

A promotional poster for the North Shore Birding Festival. It features a large illustration of a duck in flight on the left. The text is set against a background of a sunset or sunrise over water. At the bottom, there is a photograph of a group of people wearing hats and binoculars, looking out over a landscape. The text on the poster includes:

Ready to Bird Florida's Top eBird Hotspot?
DECEMBER 2-6, 2021

Discover Central Florida's 20,000-Acre
Lake Apopka North Shore
370+ Bird Species Recorded
Affordable Birding & Photo Field Trips
No Added Registration Fee

NORTH SHORE BIRDING FESTIVAL

www.OrangeAudubonFL.org/festival

**NEWS FROM
CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE (RCC)
2Q 2021**

Ongoing CFL Issues

Sand mine operators in Lake County withdrew their application to change the open space requirements in the Green Swamp Area of Critical Concern to allow for additional sand mining. County staff says they will have to start all over again if they want to make another try.

For background on the issue, see: <https://www.floridaphoenix.com/2021/03/11/green-swamps-sand-miners-look-for-special-treatment-after-their-slip-up/>

Eustis City Commission wanted to change their Comp Plan to allow development to creep into the Wekiva protected area. Lake County opposes this change. OVAS is monitoring the situation.

Free the Ocklawaha River Coalition for Everyone (FORCE)

Audubon Florida and several chapters have signed on as partners, but we don't always participate in all of the official FORCE actions (e.g., Audubon Florida did not push the letter to the governor campaign), but we do meet with DEP, WMD, etc., staff to promote the restoration. This approach really reflects a staged approach to a decades-old movement. The first step is not to remove the dam entirely but to permanently open the gates to allow the lowest possible water level which will expose approximately 80% of the river channel and forest bottom, providing an opportunity for regrowth. Additionally, we are talking about including upgrades to recreational amenities in the area and some other related items that are good for the region and should help get more support for the total plan. See 60 min video: <https://greatfloridariverway.com/documentary/>."

2022 Regional conservation Priority Goals

Central Florida chapters continue our work to promote Lake Apopka restoration, visitor access and a new Audubon Nature Center. The Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive, North Shore, is the top eBirding hotspot in Florida and we still think it remains the conservation priority for our area.

<https://www.orlandosentinel.com/opinion/guest-commentary/os-op-lake-apopka-wildlife-drive-ecotourism-20210421-lvcb6wo2nzkf6ldunho2ak6q-story.html>

Our second regional conservation priority is to monitor and act on local and state government land use decisions impacting wildlife habitat. The legislature approved \$400 million for [Florida Forever](#). Now is the time to remind decision makers that we should acquire available properties which already have a high rank on the [2021 FF Priority List](#). Chapters can mention specific properties in letters to the editor or op-ed columns to bring community attention to the need to act now.

Audubon Assembly 2021

Portions will be held in person at 3 locations around the state. Goal setting and keynote segments will be held via Zoom. See: <https://fl.audubon.org/about-us/audubon-assembly>.

Paula Wehr
Central Florida Chapters Representative
Audubon Florida Board of Directors

Treasurer's Report		Oklawaha Valley Audubon Society	
Summary of Statement from United Southern Bank			
June 2021			
Description	Debits	Credits	Balance
Beginning Balance			11,153.67
D&O Insurance	182.44		
Liability Insurance	58.99		
Audubon Birds of Prey program	200.00		
PO Box annual rental	118.00		
Choice Plus Web Hosting (3 years)	611.64		
Ending Balance	1,171.07	0.00	9,982.60
July 2021			
Description	Debits	Credits	Balance
Beginning Balance			9,982.60
D&O Insurance	182.44		
Liability Insurance	58.99		
Reimburseme Stacy Kelly for Blue Host Domain name	87.99		
Ending Balance	329.42	0.00	9,653.18

Treasurer's Report		Festival of Flight and Flowers	
Summary of Statement from United Southern Bank			
June 2021			
Description	Debits	Credits	Balance
Beginning Balance			683.52
Ending Balance			683.52
July 2021			
Description	Debits	Credits	Balance
Beginning Balance			683.52
Ending Balance			683.52



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Do you order from Amazon.com? If so, you can identify OVAS as your charity of choice to receive 0.5% of your eligible purchases. You use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same. On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com) you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. They will remember your charity selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

You can change your charity at any time.

If you would like your nature photos featured in the Limpkin Call please email them to ovasnewsletter@gmail.com

OVAS Board of Directors

POSITION	NAME
President	Stacey Kelly
1st Vice President	Michele Cotty Loger
2nd Vice President	- vacant -
Secretary	Sherry Chester
Treasurer	Jane Lovejoy
Director-at-Large	- vacant -
Director-at-Large	Maria Distefano
Director-at-Large	Peg Lindsay
Director-at-Large	Judy Knizer
Director-at-Large	Lisa Cain

OVAS—Join/Renew/Support

You are what hope looks like to a bird.

We're in a race against time to give birds and wildlife a fighting chance in a changing world. Show your love today by joining, renewing, or donating to Oklawaha Valley Audubon Society (OVAS).

Membership benefits include: Household membership (\$20/yr); Timely, relevant news about birds, their habitats, and the issues that affect them; Planned birding, environmental, and community events happening near you; A powerful voice in the fight to protect birds and wildlife, plus advocacy opportunities. Receive OVAS' bi-monthly newsletter and other communications; Helping to support OVAS partner organizations; Special offers and discounts available only to members.

By joining or renewing your local Audubon chapter, you support OVAS directly. All funds stay with our chapter and support the organization of educational programs, field trips, our conservation efforts, as well as allow us to help our partner organizations locally.

We appreciate your support annually at the beginning of each FY/program year, which is July 1. Membership is not a requirement to attend or participate in OVAS programs or field trips.

There are three ways to join/renew OVAS locally:

You can use the join/renewal form below. Mail your check to OVAS, PO Box 268, Eustis FL 32727

You can pay at a monthly program by card or check

You can go to <https://oklawaha-valley-audubon.org/membership/> and pay with PayPal

OVAS Membership Application

New _____ Renewal _____ Today's Date _____

Print Name _____

Mailing Address _____

E-mail Address(es) _____

Phone Number _____

Committee you would be willing to volunteer with:

___ Citizen Science Committee— help organize or participate in annual Emerald Marsh Christmas Bird Count, monthly bird counts, monitor local rookeries, and/ or record field trip reports data

___ Fundraising Committee— Assist with Donation box, raffles, and special events

___ Hospitality Committee— Help with refreshments for membership meetings and potlucks

___ Membership Committee— membership and email list, new name tags, sign-in book

___ Conservation Committee— attend public meetings, help write letters to legislators

___ Outreach Committee— Set up displays at events, maintain bulletin board at TLNC, advertise events in newspapers/internet

___ Digital Communications Committee— website, emails, Facebook, and other social media

___ Newsletter Committee— bi-monthly electronic newsletter and OCAS brochures

OVAS is a Florida Not-for-Profit Corporation

<https://oklawaha-valley-audubon.org/>

(352) 432-8866

<https://www.facebook.com/OklawahaValleyAudubonSociety/>



Oklawaha Valley Audubon Society

PO Box 268

Eustis FL 32727-0268

TO: