



# 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/>

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VOLUME XXXIX

November—December 2021

Number 2

## President's column

Happy Fall,

Autumn is a second Spring when every leaf is a flower... Albert Camus

With Fall weather upon us the days are more crisp with cooler air. This means that Autumn Migration is in full swing. It is truly amazing how they can cover great distances in a single day.

There are several ways to enjoy seeing these migrating birds in your area. Such as our November Field Trip to Pine Meadows Conservation Area on November 12th. As well Fall Festival like the North Shore Birding Festival with Orange Audubon Society December 2-6.

North Shore Birding Festival, Feathers and Flowers crossed we are hoping to bring the Festival of Flight and Flowers back in 2022, fingers crossed.

My favorite is the backyard species you see. Watching your familiar backyard birds every year teaches you about their migration habits. I started using a birding journal to note when I/we last saw a certain bird species. I'm hoping in a few years we will be able to reliably predict when the seasonal migration will begin.

The Fall is also a time of year to do some bird-friendly landscaping with migration in mind. Opt for flowers that bloom late summer and early fall to help attract and nourish migrating birds. One thing that we have been doing is leaving leaf litter underneath our shrubs and in the

gardens. It has provided some nice foraging area for sparrows, wrens, and doves.

One last cool thing to mention that we've enjoyed doing is watching how the plumage of the birds changes over time. For example, we had 20 plus American Goldfinches overwinter with us. When they first arrived their colors were ducked and more camouflaged. It was so neat to see their attire change giving indications of Spring.

With having two programs under our belt, and several field trips that have been well attended. We are in full swing for this year. Looking forward to sharing with you all the fantastic programs and field trips that Michele and Peg have planned for us.

I would love to give a big shout out to our lovely Board of Directors, Web Master, and Newsletter Editor/Email Support. Michele, Sherry, Jane, Peg, Judy, Lisa, Lori, and Mark. You guys are the backbone to OVAS. I greatly appreciate your passion and dedication to our Audubon Society. We may be a small chapter, but we accomplish great things.

Look forward to seeing everyone at one of our upcoming programs or field trips. We have some amazing offerings.

Regards,

Stacey

## At-a-Glance

Nov 7, 2021 2 pm—Program: Panel Discussion

Nov 11, 2021 1 pm—Field Trip: Pine Meadows Conservation Area

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

Dec 5, 2021 1 pm—Program: Holiday Luncheon with Friends at Trout Lake Nature Center

December 21, 2021 10 am—Field Trip: Audubon Center for Birds of Prey

January 2, 2022 2 pm—Program: Jay Garcia, Supervisory Wildlife Biologist at Ocala National Forest

January 11, 2022 9 am—Field Trip: Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, Titusville

February TBD, 2022 2 pm—Field Trip: Scrub Jays Galore in Ocala National Forest



Eastern Meadowlark at Pine Meadows

Picture by Mark Heinemann

## 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.

### 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 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](mailto: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.



American Alligator Juvenile at Trout Lake Nature Center

Picture by: Matya Gurley

## EVENT

### Holiday Luncheon with our Environmental Friends

**December 5, 1:00 pm at Trout Lake Nature Center**

We are hoping (public health concerns considered) to have our Holiday Luncheon with our Environmental Friends this December 5 at 1pm. The Trout Lake Nature Center will host us, the Lake Beautyberry Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society, and the In Focus Photo Club, for a potluck luncheon. Please bring your own table setting (plates and utensils), along with a dish to share, in an effort to reduce our carbon footprint! The photography club will be projecting their amazing pictures onto the big screen during the event for us to appreciate.

This is the groups' way of thanking our volunteers and membership for a great year. Please come and be recognized for your contributions and to meet and mingle with our environmental friends this holiday season!



Baltimore Oriole Female

Picture by: Stacey Kelly

## Program

**January 2nd, 2 pm at Trout Lake Nature Center**

We welcome Jay Garcia, Supervisory Wildlife Biologist, of the U.S. Forest Service to discuss Ocala National Forest Management with us on January 2nd at 2pm at the Trout Lake Nature Center. He will be presenting on the land management strategies the Forest Service employs that benefit the birds, like Florida Scrub Jays, and all the wildlife in the diverse Ocala National Forest. If you want to learn more about the science-based management decisions being made in our local National Forest, you will find this talk very informative and interesting.

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### Vice-president's column:

I'd like to start my column this month by recognizing Lori Paterson who has been maintaining our website while also managing email blasts and the membership roles, for years now! Maria has begun taking the reins for maintaining our membership information, while Mark is now handling our newsletter and email blasts. This gives Lori a chance to still be our webmaster, with less of the stress of being in charge of all of our digital tasks.

It's important for volunteers to spread out the load that is carried so no one person is overburdened. Seeing new folks step up to help is inspiring and helps keep us all motivated. Thank you Lori, for all your efforts this far and your continued website expertise!

One of Audubon's visions, which is our chapter's as well, is increasing the equity, diversity, and inclusion in Audubon. This means making the club's membership and leadership roles available and appealing to people from all ages, ethnicities, orientations, and religions.

All I know is there are a lot of people who love birdwatching and wildlife and the outdoors in general who may not feel welcome to join us, or safe to do so. The insight, enthusiasm, and knowledge diverse people can bring to OVAS is something we desire. We want to extend our hand and an invitation to join us. This starts with you, fellow member, stepping up and then reaching out. This is where gaining wisdom from our panel discussion in November will help. If you've been thinking about how you can make a difference, we have ideas! Volunteering can be fulfilling, meaningful, and make a big difference through small acts.

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.



**RESCHEDULED**  
**(Originally scheduled for November 14<sup>th</sup>)**

**Field Trip Pine Meadows Conservation Area**

**1 pm November 11, 2021**

2280 Pine Meadows Golf Course Rd., Eustis

Our third field trip of the season will be at Pine Meadows, a repeat of one of our favorite trips from 2020. Last year, bird migrants were abundant – especially the Catbirds. This year it's an afternoon hike. After the Florida summer, we should all appreciate the fine November weather, enjoy Mother/Father Nature and make new/renew friendships. November weather is typically in the high 70s so we can plan on a very pleasant afternoon. Fall wildflowers should still be in bloom. Join the group at the far parking lot where we can meet and greet at a safe social distance.

Yes, COVID is still in the air and everyone is recommended to wear a mask and surely keep a safe social distance from each other. As before, we can hike in "pods" of 6 persons/pod because NOBODY wants to contract COVID, nor spread it to friends.

Terri Pietroburgo, Park Ranger, will give us an overview of the property before we begin our hike.

Pack a brown bag and maybe a lawn chair if you want to enjoy a quiet meal in the company of friends following the hike. You are welcome at Stacey's house after the hike if you wish.

As with all our hikes, we request registration and a donation to support the operating costs of our organization.

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



Acadian Flycatcher @ Pine Meadows Conservation Area

Picture by: Dennis O'Neil

**Field Trip 10 am Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Audubon Center for Birds of Prey**  
**1101 Audubon Way Maitland, FL 32751**  
**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

One of the best of last year's programs was a visit by two volunteers from the Audubon Center for Birds of Prey along with their avian ambassadors. The program was so much fun and the audience was so enthusiastic that a visit to the Center was strongly requested. Well, here we go!

We have a scheduled tour at 10 a.m. December 21<sup>st</sup>. The actual individual entry fee will depend on how many folks sign up for the trip. Each tour is for a group of 15 people at \$125. The CBoP staff have agreed to run two groups concurrently, if necessary (up to 30 people max.) Without knowing how many folks will participate, I'm suggesting every participant pay \$10 towards the entry fee and \$10 donation to our chapter. If we get more than 30 to sign up, we'll add another group tour at 11:30.

The tour lasts about one hour.

It's been a few years since our chapter has visited the Center. I expect there have been a few changes. According to the website:

Located in the city of Maitland and the Town of Eatonville, this urban environmental Audubon Center focuses on the rescue, medical treatment, rehabilitation and release of Florida's raptors. Grounding our roots in conservation, Maitland hosted the first Florida Audubon Society meetings in March 1900 to save Florida's imperiled wading birds. Today, Audubon Center for Birds of Prey carries on that mission of protecting and saving Florida's birds of prey. We invite you to experience our unique location, tucked along Lake Sybelia, just outside Orlando. Visitors can learn about the unique adaptations of raptors, challenges they face and the many ways to get involved with helping birds of prey and the important habitats and resources they depend on.

- Guidebooks are available for download at the Admissions window or from the website.
- A reminder, our current visitor areas are all outdoors. Florida weather is unpredictable, please plan accordingly. We recommend to bring water or other hydration with you.
- Hand sanitizer stations are provided at several location throughout the Center.

**FOR THE SAFETY AND COURTESY OF ALL GUESTS, STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS OUR MASK POLICY HAS BEEN UPDATED:**

- Audubon will not require vaccinated guests to wear masks for self-guided tours and visits (all outdoors). Masks are still required in Audubon buildings, and during all educational programs, since distancing is limited.
- Masks will still be available for use or request at the admissions window.
- Please practice safe social distancing. Leave six feet between yourself and others.
- If you are feeling sick, please stay home.

Center website:

<https://cbop.audubon.org/>

To register for this event:

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

**Field Trip January 11, 2022**  
**Annual OVAS Pilgrimage to Merritt Island**  
**National Wildlife Refuge**  
**Titusville**

Add this date to your calendars. We'll drive (+/- 2 hours) to Titusville and begin our birding adventure around 9 a.m. at Sand Point Park, 419 N Washington Ave, Titusville. The bathrooms (last time I visited) are clean. We'll bird the lagoon then proceed to Blackpoint Wildlife Drive. From there to the Visitor Center (bathrooms) then Playalinda Beach to look for overwintering seabirds.

There are so many roads and trails to explore, you may consider staying overnight and visiting a second day. I think our family of two will do that.

Plan on an early dinner (it gets crowded because the food is so good) at Dixie Crossroads or Wild Ocean Seafood Market (seating limited) or at a restaurant of your choice. There are so many good choices.

Look for more information in the next newsletter.

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## **Fall is for fairies**

This autumn OVAS is entering two fairy house competitions.

The first one, The Lady of the Lakes Renaissance Faire says "Our fun and fantasy in the forest serves a purpose every year. Every dollar raised from this event goes to the teachers and students in Lake County Public Schools." The judging takes place November 3, and the houses will be on display for the entire Faire.

[Lady of the Lake Renaissance Faire Fairy House Competition](#)

We hope you enjoy the Faire!

In November the Trout Lake Nature Center is also holding a fairy house competition, you should consider entering too!

The judging takes place November 13, and the houses will be on display along the trails into December.

[TLNC Fairy House Challenge](#)

We are happy to contribute; to spark imaginations, support education, and get people to gaze with wonder into the woods. We think it's a wonderful way to capture the magic of nature and the season.



## **NEWS FROM CENTRAL FLORIDA REGIONAL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE (RCC)**

**4Q 2021**

### **Ongoing CFL Issues**

2021 was a banner year for funding from the FL legislature. \$400 million budgeted--\$100M from the document stamp tax and \$300M is a one-time appropriation from the Federal Relief Fund.

Farmers and ranchers are realizing that conservation easements align with their interests and are increasingly willing to enter into agreements that will keep their lands undeveloped in perpetuity.

Chapters will continue advocating for purchase of Florida Forever pre-approved conservation properties in their geography.

A proposed bill in Lake County will abolish the Lake County Water Authority and transfer its assets to the Lake County Commission. AF is working with EPA and SJWMD to try to have authority transferred to SJWMD instead. Assets include approximately 20 conservation properties.

Audubon Florida owns property in Lake Butler which has become a favorite spot for boaters to dock, particularly on weekends. Boaters trespass on the island, sometimes littering and often disturbing beach-nesting or beach-resting birds. Keeping the public away has become difficult, but Orange County found an ordinance that allows exclusion of motorboats because people swim in the area. This option will be discussed at public meetings scheduled for October 19.

The Orange County Commission voted \$100M from the general fund for Green Place programs. They are setting up an advisory board and Orange Audubon Society has an opportunity to be represented on that board.

Leaders from Seminole and Orange chapters met with Senator Jason Brodeur, Chair of Environment & Natural Resources Committee and Margaret Spontak, Chair of Free the Ocklawaha River Coalition. St Johns Water Management District coordinated a public survey about the future of the Ocklawaha River's restoration. It is hoped that 10,000 people will complete the survey.

West Volusia AS is working with the Deltona Dept of Economic Development which has recently declared the environment as the third pillar of Deltona's economic plan.

Paula Wehr  
Central Florida Chapters Representative  
Audubon Florida Board of Directors

# 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, Lease 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-checked 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](mailto:archaeopteryxtours@gmail.com) or call 609-553-0757 for more information.

Red-legged Thrush



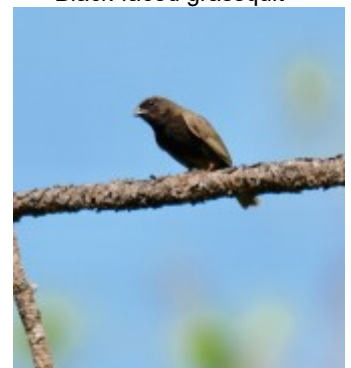
Olive-capped Warbler



Greater Antillean Bullfinch



Black-faced grassquit







Joint Field Trip with Native Plant Society (Lake Beautyberry) to Tavares Nature Park



Great Egret at Tavares Nature Park  
Photo by Peg Urban



Peg and Peg representing OVAS at the Wildflower Festival at Green Isle Gardens



Members of OVAS and Lake Beautyberry Native Plant Chapter enjoying the tour to Stetson University



Members enjoying the first meeting of the year



Audubon Florida's website has several Educational Webinars if you are interested:

[Educational Webinars | Audubon Florida](#)



Yellow-rumped Warbler at Lake Apopka

Picture by: Mark Heinemann

Recently, the St. Johns River Water Management District collected feedback from local community members regarding the removal of the Kirkpatrick Dam, and Rodman Reservoir to restore the natural flow of the Ocklawaha River. The survey closed October 22.

We are awaiting the results of this survey.

Here are a couple of links to keep an eye on:

[Free the Ocklawaha](#)

[St. Johns River Water Management District](#)

[The Great Florida Riverway](#)



**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](http://www.OrangeAudubonFL.org/festival)



**Treasurer's Report Oklawaha Valley Audubon Society**  
**Summary of Statement from United Southern Bank**

<b>August 2021</b>			
Description	Debits	Credits	Balance
Beginning Balance			9,653.18
PAYPAL transfer		622.75	
D&O Insurance (Capital Premi-	182.44		
Reimburse Sherry for office	36.14		
Ending Balance	218.58	622.75	10,057.35
<b>September 2021</b>			
Description	Debits	Credits	Balance
Beginning Balance			10,057.35
Membership and program do-		65.00	
Membership		20.00	
Membership		40.00	
Membership and program do-		45.00	
PayPal Transfer		382.23	
D&O Insurance (Capital Premi-	182.44		
Transfer to FFF	350.00		
Reimburse Mark Heinemann for Sunbiz	61.25		
USPS - one day delivery for	26.35		
Reimburse Sherry for office	36.30		
Ending Balance	656.34	552.23	9,953.24

**Treasurer's Report Festival of Flight and Flowers**  
**Summary of Statement from United Southern Bank**

<b>August 2021</b>			
Description	Debits	Credits	Balance
Beginning Balance			683.52
Ending Balance			683.52
<b>September 2021</b>			
Description	Debits	Credits	Balance
Beginning Balance			683.52
Transfer from OVAS		350.00	
Ending Balance		350.00	1,033.52



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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](https://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](https://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](mailto: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

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**TO:**