



# THE LIMPKIN CALL

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## COMING EVENTS;

### January 11, Wednesday

Field Trip to Audubon Birds of Prey

Center, Maitland. (Donation- \$ 5.) and Mead Gardens, Winter Park. Meet at Golden Triangle parking lot Mt Dora, 8:00am. Audubon Center Can be found in Great Florida Birding Trail-East, Page 14.

This is a great opportunity to see those elusive nocturnal friends who shout Hoot in the night and also to contribute to their well-being.

Leader- David Wilson 589 2736.

**January 21- Theater Benefit  
CINDERELLA- Last Chance to  
buy tickets to this Rogers & Ham-  
merstein 1965 musical.  
Food and drink at 1:30pm at The**

**Melon Patch Playhouse, Leesburg  
Tickets- \$20. Just call David Wilson  
589 2736.**

**January 24, Tuesday  
Regular Meeting- 2:00pm *Natural***

February 27-28, Monday-Tuesday

**Overnight Trip-** We will stay in Palm Coast and visit state parks in Flagler County area including Washington Oaks Gardens, Tomoka, Bulow Creek and the National Monument, Ft. Matanzas.

We will stay at Palm Coast Villas where rooms have fridge, coffee maker, microwave with rates approx. \$ 64. per room per night. There are a large number of restaurants in the area and we will organize dinner at one on Tuesday, Feb 28.

Best route to Palm Coast- State 44 to Deland; at 1<sup>st</sup> traffic light, left onto State 15a leading into State 11, an open country road direct to Bunnell where number changes to State 100 to the coast at Flagler Beach. Left on A1A and about 6 miles to motel in Palm Coast.

Please sign-up at the next meeting and bring your checkbook to pay OVAS. We must pay the motel bill directly as we are tax-exempt. Complete details at the January 24 meeting. And motel full payment is required at that time.

**March 8 Wednesday**

Field Trip to Gatorland-Kissimmee. Despite the name, this is a major bird rookery area. See Great Florida Birding Trail, page 18.. Best route is Turnpike and exit at Rtes 441, 41,92, then 5 miles on 441. Discount Entrance Price- about \$ 15. Meet at Golden Triangle parking lot Mt Dora, 8:00am, Leader- Bruce Phillips 315 0593.

*History-Central American Stories.*

Clyde Stephens. He is a well-known member of both this area of Florida and Panama where he spent much of his career in the tropical fruit industry. Don't miss Clyde's stories! Some great slides too!

**February 12, Sunday**

**Regular Meeting- 2:00pm** *Vultures*  
Steve DeCresie from the staff of the Central Florida Zoo-Sanford. Not all people are beautiful and neither are all birds, but the vultures play an important part in ecology world-wide. And what is the grandest flier of all, but the Condor over the Andes and a vulture!

**February 15 Wednesday**

Central Florida Zoo- Sanford. Meet at Golden Triangle Parking Lot , Mt Dora  
At 9:00am, Leader-Fawn Vocci, 360 5007.  
Admission for seniors- \$ 6.95.

**Big "O" Birding Festival- Jan 27-29**

This is the annual birding festival on Lake Okeechobee which is sponsored by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, Audubon of Florida, Audubon Society of Lake Okeechobee, the Bat Center and Florida Atlantic University, among others. Registration fee is \$ 25 and includes all lectures. A variety of tours are available at costs of \$15- \$25. One of the features will be a preview of the Great Florida Birding Trail- Southern Section. Location is Moore Haven on US Route 27 on the western shore of the lake. For complete information and registration- [www.bigobirdingfestival.com](http://www.bigobirdingfestival.com) or call 863 946 0300.

**In Praise of Biodiversity- An Exhibit of Photography**

The nature photographer, Jeffrey Berger, has created an exhibition in words and pictures entitled, In Praise of Biodiversity which is on display at the W. T. Bland Public Library in Mount Dora until January 31.

This is meant to be an environmental learning experience to demonstrate the interdependency of all things in nature. Berger feels that "Nature photography serves as a medium for environmental education. Pictures of anhinga and egret mothers raising their young make an important statement. That these creatures are precious and worthy of protection for future generations."

His work is available in photo prints through The Studio, a gallery in Mount Dora. The contact there is Dave Patterson, 352 385 0600.

### **Central Florida Ecosystems Program**

Audubon of Florida has proposed a new approach to conservation for our area, to protect and restore the ecosystems which means the Wekiva, St Johns, Upper Kissimmee Rivers and the Green Swamp.

For Central Florida this means directing efforts towards increasing populations of first of all, Bald Eagles (now having the largest nest concentration in the US outside of Alaska), plus sandhill and whooping cranes, limpkins, woodstorks, snail kites and Audubon's caracaras.

The objective is to develop a total community view in favor of conservation as part of planning for future growth of the area, rather than fragmented specific projects.

Responsible growth in this program means:

Changing development and transportation patterns

Acquisition of land

Planning and zoning to reduce sprawl

A regional approach to consensus (other environmental groups, landowners, government)

Education and outreach.

This project was part of the Audubon Assembly 2005 meeting which was canceled due to hurricanes. Our chapter Conservation Chair is Linda Bystrak and she will be keeping herself and us informed.

### **Audubon Academy- March 24-26- St Petersburg**

The purpose of this event is to provide educational input to those chapter members who would hope to become directors and officers of their chapter.

This is done with workshops on subjects such as Leading Chapter, Raising Funds and Designing Successful Conservation Projects.

It is held at Eckerd College in St Petersburg where the rooms (\$65) and food are good quality at reasonable prices.

OVAS is offering to pay the registration fee for this event for a maximum of four members who wish to participate. For more information on the program, contact Joyce King at [sjking@mindspring.com](mailto:sjking@mindspring.com) or 727 531 3440.

To attend, please contact Jerry Bohmann at [jerrelk@aol.com](mailto:jerrelk@aol.com) or 352 735 5922

### **NEW MEMBERS**

We welcome the following new members to Audubon:

Jean Cherryholmes

Fruitland Park

Robert J Downey

Lady Lake

Gary Fields

Leesburg

William Guenther

Leesburg

Elaine S Hutchko	Lady Lake
Marion Johnson	Mt Dora
Autumn Lewis	Leesburg
J. Moore	The Villages
Sharon Palansky	The Villages
Nancy Richardson	Leesburg
Kirby Robinson	Leesburg
Zane Summers	Lady Lake
Donald Trop	Leesburg
Charles Wilhelm	Mt Dora
Betty Jarrett	The Villages

**Thank You to Donors to Audubon Adventures**

We would like to thank those of you who have responded to our request for funds to support Audubon Adventures in Lake County schools:

Joe Hill  
Karin Bryan  
Mary Anderson  
Elizabeth LeFevre  
E J Owen  
Mark Vocci and Lake Eye Associates