

Flicker Flashes

Published by
The Birmingham Audubon Society

For conservation and greater knowledge
of birds, their habitat, and natural world

Birmingham Audubon Nature Program 2016-2017 Calendar

Birmingham Botanical Gardens
7 P.M and open to the public



The 2016-2017 slate of monthly Nature Programs will offer engaging talks about a range of conservation topics regarding Alabama and beyond. Each program will begin at 7 PM at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens and all are open to the public.

The first Nature Program will be on September 15 and will feature Dr. John Abbott (pictured at left) from the University of Alabama Museum of Natural History. Dr. Abbott's presentation will focus on his work to get citizen scientists to collect data on dragonfly migrations.

In October, we will host two Walter Coxe Research Award recipients to learn about their Birmingham Audubon supported research.

Mr. James Godwin (pictured below) will join us in November to discuss the use of molecular technology in his search for hellbenders in Alabama.



Programs in 2017 will feature Dr. Geoffrey Hill from Auburn University and Dr. Lorrie Tolley-Jordan from Jacksonville State University. The March 2017 Nature Program will consist of a screening of the documentary film, *The Messenger*. The film shows the conservation crisis many songbird species are currently in and what can be done to reverse it.

Join Audubon's Teaching Naturalist for Weekly Walks

Starting in September you can join Ansel Payne, Birmingham Audubon's Teaching Naturalist, for free morning and evening walks exploring natural sites around the city. Named for Philip Henry Gosse's early exploration of Alabama flora and fauna, Gosse Walks will last approximately one to two hours and will cover a variety of natural history topics from birds to plants to geological features. Our first walk is Friday morning, September 9, 2016, at Avondale Park on Birmingham's east side—we will meet at 8 a.m. sharp at the Avondale Rose & Habitat Garden on 40th Street South just behind the public library (GPS coordinates: 33.520281, -86.773146). Everyone should plan to arrive in appropriate clothing with walking shoes, sunscreen, and water. We can provide binoculars and bird guides, but we do encourage you to bring your own. Check <http://birminghamaudubon.org/events/> for upcoming locations and meeting times.

September Field Trip Labor Day - Half-Day Field Trip Ebenezer Swamp, Meadowview Elementary School and Limestone Park

Saturday, September 17, 2016 - 7 A.M.

Ebenezer Swamp and nearby Meadowview Elementary School and Limestone Park will attract a wide range of migrant songbirds, given the varied habitat found in these three local birding sites.

As the name implies, **Ebenezer Swamp Ecological Preserve** is an upland hardwood swamp populated with trees typical of this habitat: mainly tupelo gum, but also a mixture of other hardwoods and pines. A boardwalk, built and maintained by the University of Montevallo, provides handicapped access well into the interior. Bird life here is plentiful and the photographers among us will find the scenery and dark waters appealing. Meadowview Elementary School, located nearby, offers wonderful birding opportunities as well.

Limestone Park features much more open habitat than what is found in the hardwood swamp, and showcases a different suite of bird life. Eastern meadowlarks and killdeer are often seen and heard calling from the open grassy areas, while the marsh and central pond will likely hold a variety of wading birds and shorebirds. Waterfowl and raptors are also a good bet here.

Trip Plans: Meet at 7 a.m. at the Alabaster McDonald's at I-65, Exit #238, located at 205 S Colonial Drive, Alabaster AL 35007. The group will carpool and depart from there to our first birding destination and, depending on the birding and weather conditions, will finish our outing at Limestone Park.



Trip leaders: Susan Barrow, 205-253-8667, Anne G. Miller, 205-902-1389 and Jean Folsom.

October Field Trips at a glance:

October 1, Oak Mountain State Park
October 22, Montgomery area birding sites

Russ Bailey Memorial Bird Walk

Monday (Labor Day), September 5, 2016 - 7 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Ruffner Mountain Nature Preserve

Russ Bailey was a long-time member of Birmingham Audubon, and "back in the day" when we held only one field trip per month, Russ would have an impromptu field trip on the Labor Day holiday. His philosophy was that with the southbound migration well underway it was pointless to waste a perfectly good day of birding!

Russ usually went to Lake Purdy to look for shorebirds but the past few years the shorebirding there has been lackluster due to changing water levels in the lake. Therefore, this year we're headed to Ruffner Mountain Nature Preserve, a well-known local birding hotspot. Ruffner's woodland habitat and myriad hiking trails will provide excellent birding opportunities as we look for colorful warblers, vireos, tanagers and thrushes. You can read more about Ruffner Mountain on the Alabama Birding Trails website.

Trip Plans: Meet at 7 a.m. at the main parking lot at the entrance to Ruffner Mountain Nature Preserve, which is located at 1214 81st St S., Birmingham, AL 35206. Their phone number is 205-833-8264. We will bird in the vicinity of the parking lot first, as it often provides excellent views of birds in the shrubby vegetation and adjacent hardwoods. We will then proceed up the mountain in search of more migrants.

Trip leader: Greg Harber, 205-807-8055 (cell).



Stories about Alabama's Environment

Southern Exposure

2016 Films Slated to Premiere

Thursday, September 8, 2016 - 7 P.M.

Birmingham audiences will soon experience a first look at the Southern Exposure Film Fellowship 2016 films, featuring a fascinating variety of stories about Alabama's environment from across the state and includes Southern Exposure's first-ever animated film.

Each summer, the Southern Exposure Film Fellowship brings emerging filmmakers to Birmingham to learn about Alabama's pressing environmental issues and to meet the individuals and organizations working to protect one of the most ecologically and geologically diverse states in the U.S.

Starting this past June and over the course of six weeks, six talented filmmakers traveled all over the state to meet with community members, elected and local officials, scientists, business owners, riverkeepers and other conservation groups, resulting in six powerful films about Alabama's environment and the triumphs and struggles to preserve its abundance of natural wonders and scenic beauty.

Now in its fifth year, the Southern Exposure Film Fellowship has resulted in the creation of more than 30 films.

Southern Exposure is sponsored by the Southern Environmental Law Center (SELC) and made possible through the support and partnership of local and statewide conservation groups.

"Throughout the five years of the program, these gifted young filmmakers have put the focus on some of the biggest environmental challenges in Alabama," said David Pope, Director of SELC's Alabama and Georgia offices. "These films illustrate much better than mere words some of the more urgent issues facing the state and what can be done to address them."

Films from previous fellowship years have spanned a range of topics, from uplifting success stories like the movement to reinstate the Forever Wild Land Trust, to the barriers standing in the way of Alabama's successful statewide solar



policy, to a rare view of the breath-taking wonders found in the vast underground cave system in northern Alabama.

As a result of these poignant films and their portrayal of the conservation efforts up against development interests and industrial pressures that threaten Alabama's environmental wealth, numerous films from past fellowship years have been selected for screening in juried film festivals nationwide.

As a result of a partnership between SELC, Black Warrior Riverkeeper and the Birmingham Public Library System, DVDs of the 2013, 2014 and 2015 Southern Exposure films are now available to the public in all 19 Birmingham Public Library locations.

"The 2016 films and the messages they impart carry on the heritage of Southern Exposure and fulfill the program's mission to spread awareness and appreciation and to inspire action on behalf of Alabama's environment," said Pope. "These films will be screened throughout the state and beyond in order to educate, entertain and energize our citizens."

The 2016 Southern Exposure films will premiere in Birmingham on Thursday, September 8 at 7:00 PM at the Altamont School's Cabaniss-Kaul Center for the Arts.

To learn more about the program and meet the people behind the films, visit southernexposurefilms.org or follow the Southern Exposure Film Fellowship on Facebook.

Those interested in scheduling additional film screenings for schools, colleges, civic groups, and conservation organizations can contact southernexposure@selcal.org.



SoSo for the Record

Final Edition

It is with great sadness that we announce that Ann Miller has made the decision to end her long-running column, SoSo for the Record. Her final contribution was in the Summer 2016 issue.

SoSo for the Record began back in 1983 before birders and other nature lovers had widespread internet, smart phones, and Apps to keep us abreast of the latest news concerning bird sightings, both rare and common. Miller's reporting in these pages has played a key role in recording rare sightings of birds to the official state records. Many years of those efforts were made with only a land-line based telephone hotline as the most prominent means of reporting.

Birmingham Audubon wishes to thank Miller sincerely for her long service to the organization and the community. The birds say thank you, too! Thank you, Ann.

13th John L Borom Alabama Coastal Birdfest

Fairhope, Alabama - October 5-8, 2016

The City of Fairhope will welcome birders and nature lovers to the 13th Annual John. L. Borom Alabama Coastal Birdfest on October 5-8, 2016. The event will feature a photography by Janice Neitzel and a keynote address by Dr. John Dindo, Senior Marine Scientist and Associate Director of Dauphin Island Sea Lab. There will be numerous field trips and workshops to meet a wide variety of interests.

Registration is currently open, but will close at 4 P.M. on September 23. Please visit their website: www.AlabamaCoastalBirdfest.com, for registration and information. Birmingham Audubon is a sponsor of the event.



Birmingham Audubon Membership/Volunteer Coordinator: Carolyn Henshaw

Meet our new Membership/Volunteer Coordinator, Carolyn Henshaw. She has been on the job just a few short weeks, but already has made a sizeable contribution by serving as the main contact for new and renewing members and those interested in volunteering with Birmingham Audubon programs and by providing acknowledgments of our donors' generosity.

Carolyn, who joined the staff on July 25, completed her B.S. degree in Biology and M.A. in Education and Agency Counseling at UAB. Some members may recall Carolyn's work earlier in her career as educator at Ruffner Mountain Nature Preserve. Many have enjoyed the story that she was once a student of Ken Marion, our immediate past president.

Carolyn is in the office Monday afternoon (after teaching yoga to patients at Alabama Children's Hospital) and Tuesday-Thursday mornings. She can be reached at chenshaw@birminghamaudubon.org or 205-719-3678 ext. 1. Please drop by the office or contact Carolyn for membership, volunteer opportunities and scheduling, or for acknowledgement of your gift.

Update on Josey Crider: Many of us have met or worked with Josey Crider, our previous Membership/Volunteer Coordinator, who has relocated with her family to North Carolina in June. She reports they are settled in and that baby Webb is growing up quickly.

President's Message

Become a Backyard Conservationist

By Michelle Reynolds

It is that time again for a birdcall to action.

Birmingham Audubon's mission statement, to promote conservation and a greater knowledge of birds, their habitat, and the natural world, is a good one, and I know it is a statement members share and take seriously. We have a long and rich history of advocating for conservation in the state of Alabama and monitoring and protecting birds and their habitats. We share our knowledge, our enthusiasm, and our joy for the birds, and we combine our efforts with others to preserve public lands. We hold ourselves accountable to live up to the expectations and successes of our founders, and the organization collectively works to make a difference through programs, field trips, classes, and workshops.

We often think of conservation as a prodigious term - a conservationist works to save a forest, a river or it is someone who donates large sums of money to buy and save tracts of land. Yes, a conservationist is all of those things. Some Birmingham Audubon members are significant shareholders in the world of conservation and preservation by those standards, but there is a type of conservationist of vital importance. This type of conservationist is one that we all have the capabilities to become, the backyard conservationist.

To become a backyard conservationist, you have to commit and work to build your own environment, create, conserve and preserve the biodiversity in your yard, your church yard, schoolyard, workplace, your neighborhood, community, and beyond.

In building an environment for birds, you need to provide food for birds, and sure, you can put up a bird feeder, but more importantly, you should provide natural food in terms of seeds, fruit, insects, and nectar. Adults need insects, fruit or seeds, and babies need caterpillars and other larva. The way to provide those food sources is



Photo by Bob Farley: Board president, Michelle Reynolds, creates a border by digging up the turf grass, adding organic matter to the soil, and using leaves from her yard to top mulch. Wildflowers, grasses, and shrubs make up a diverse garden to attract wildlife.

to create habitat in your own yard, plant the native plants, stop using pesticides, use natural leaf mulch to encourage microorganisms, beetles and burrowing larva, and then expand those areas to create corridors. If you work to do all of these things? Poof, you are a backyard conservationist!

Spread the news of your successes in welcoming and observing your backyard biodiversity. Gather with your neighbors to evaluate the nature in your neighborhood. Be the Johnny Appleseed of native plants. Plant borders of native plants in your yard and encourage your neighbors to do the same by sharing seeds, cuttings, knowledge, and by promoting local native plant sales. Good wildlife borders make good neighbors.

Work to close the gaps in the forests by connecting the dots with your home and workplace gardens, with your city parks and green spaces, and with each other. And in doing so, we can all lend to the economic impact of our communities by providing opportunities for exploration, recreation, and birding.

Affect change in your community. If you have land, use it. If you have money, spend it, if you have a voice, shout it. Start in your own yard and work your way outward. Work with your neighbors, your community, your city, county, and state governments. Fight for your rights of way, your roadsides, your parks, your state parks, your national parks, and beyond. Set out to make a positive impact and back it up with actions, state the facts, and work with others to implement change on a larger scale. Connect your work to other initiatives, and pretty soon you have made a larger impact than what you originally set out to do. Become the everyday environmentalist, the community conservationist, and the public land preservationist.

Birmingham Audubon Society

Calendar of Events

September 2016 - August 2017

Month	Event	Time	Location	Contact
		<i>(Begins)</i>	<i>(Meeting location for field trips)</i>	<i>(Area code 205 unless noted)</i>
September				
5	Russ Bailey Memorial Walk, 1/2 Day Field Trip	7:00AM	Ruffner Mtn Nature Preserve	Greg Harber:807-8055
9	Gosse Nature Walk	8:00AM	Avondale Park	Ansel Payne: 719-3678
15	BBG Bird Walk	6:15PM	Birmingham Botanical Garden	Ansel Payne: 719-3678
15	Program: John Abbott, U of A Museum of Natural History	7:00PM	Birmingham Botanical Garden	Carolyn Henshaw: 719-3678
17	Full Day field trip: Ebenezer Swamp & Limestone Park	7:00AM	McDonald's, I-65 Exit #238	Susan Barrow: 253-8667 Anne G. Miller: 902-1389
24	BAS Fall Bird Count			
October				
1	Half Day Field Trip: Oak Mountain State Park	7:00AM	Oak Mtn State Park	Greg Harber:807-8055
5 to 8	AL Coastal Birdfest		Mobile & Baldwin counties	John.borom@faulknerstate.edu
10	Beginner Bird Walk	7:00AM	Avondale Park	Ansel Payne: 719-3678
14 to 16	AL Ornithological Society Fall Meeting		Dauphin Island, AL	Anne G. Miller: 902-1389
20	Program: Walter Coxe Recipients presentation	7:00PM	Birmingham Botanical Garden	Carolyn Henshaw: 719-3678
22	Full Day Field Trip: Montgomery area	7:00AM	TBA	Matt Hunter: 915-8186
November				
5	Half Day Field Trip	7:00AM	Red Mountain Park	Susan Barrow: 253-8667 Matt Hunter: 915-8186
11	Beginner Bird Walk	8:00AM	Birmingham Botanical Garden	Ansel Payne: 719-3678
17	Program: Jim Godwin, AL Natural Heritage Program	7:00PM	Birmingham Botanical Garden	Carolyn Henshaw: 719-3678
19	Full Day Field Trip: Wheeler NWR	7:00AM	Wells Fargo/Publix Gardendale	Greg Harber:807-8055
December				
1	70th Annual Banquet: Donald Kroodsma	5:30PM	Protective Life Corporation	Carolyn Henshaw: 719-3678
17	Wheeler NWR Christmas Bird Count			Dwight Cooley
23	Birmingham Christmas Bird Count			David George
26	Guntersville Christmas Bird Count			Linda Reynolds
January				
7	Half Day Field Trip: Railroad & Avondale Parks	7:00AM	Railroad Park Pavilion	Matt Hunter: 915-8186 Susan Barrow: 253-8667
14	Beginner Bird Walk: Wheeler NWR	8:00AM	Wells Fargo/Publix Gardendale	Ansel Payne: 719-3678
19	Program: Geoff Hill, Auburn University	7:00PM	Birmingham Botanical Garden	Carolyn Henshaw: 719-3678
21	Full Day Field Trip: Guntersville	7:00AM	BBG Parking Lot	Greg Harber: 807-8055
27 to 29	AL Ornithological Society Winter Meeting		Guntersville State Park	Anne G. Miller: 902-1389
February				
4	Full Day Field Trip: James D. Martin Wildlife Park	7:00AM	Chik-Fil-A, 1648 Montclair Rd, 35210	Anne G. Miller: 902-1389 Susan Barrow: 253-8667
16	Program: Lori Tolley-Jordan, Jacksonville State	7:00PM	Birmingham Botanical Garden	Carolyn Henshaw: 719-3678
18	Half Day Field Trip: Great Backyard Bird Count	7:00AM	Birmingham Zoo	Greg Harber: 807-8055

Month	Event	Time	Location	Contact
		<i>(Begins)</i>	<i>(Meeting location for field trips)</i>	<i>(Area code 205 unless noted)</i>
March				
4	Half Day Field Trip: East Lake Park & Zion Prairie	7:00AM	East Lake Park	Matt Hunter: 915-8186 Susan Barrow: 253-8667
16	Program: The Messenger (documentary)	7:00PM	Birmingham Botanical Garden	Carolyn Henshaw: 719-3678
25	Full Day Trip: Perry Lakes Park, Spencer Farm, Marion Jct	7:00AM	Hoover McDonald's	Greg Harber: 807-8055
April				
1	Half Day Field Trip	7:00AM	TBA	Greg Harber:807-8055
15	Full Day Field Trip: Brushy Creek Lake, Bankhead NF	7:00AM	Wells Fargo/Publix Gardendale	Greg Harber:807-8055
21 to 23	AL Ornithological Society Spring Meeting		Dauphin Island, AL	Anne G. Miller: 902-1389
27	Program: Annual Service Awards & Member Appreciation	7:00PM	Birmingham Botanical Garden	Carolyn Henshaw: 719-3678
29	BAS Spring Bird Count			Greg Harber: 807-8055
May				
6	Full Day Field Trip: Monte Sano State Park	7:00AM	Wells Fargo/Publix Gardendale	Greg Harber: 807-8055
11 to 14	40th Birmingham Audubon Mountain Workshop		Alpine Camp, Mentone, AL	Andy Coleman: 719-3678
June				
24	Full Day Field Trip: Forever Wild, State Cattle Ranch	7:00AM	Hoover McDonald's	Greg Harber: 807-8055
July				
29	Full Day Field Trip: Autaugaville-Lowndesboro kite fields	7:00AM	Hoover McDonald's	Greg Harber: 807-8055
August				
5	Full Day Field Trip: Greensboro area catfish farms	7:00AM	Hoover McDonald's	Greg Harber: 807-8055
12	Full Day Field Trip: Gainesville, Aliceville, Livingston	7:00AM	Hoover McDonald's	Greg Harber: 807-8055

For the most current information, please visit www.birminghamaudubon.org or our Facebook page. Emails may be sent to basoffice@birminghamaudubon.org

Birmingham Audubon Field Trip Cancellation Policy

If there is a possibility of hazardous road conditions due to inclement weather, please contact the trip lead at the phone number provided. You may also check our website, www.birminghamaudubon.org or our Facebook page.

Birmingham Audubon is a staffed chapter of National Audubon Society with offices located at 3720 Fourth Avenue South, Birmingham, AL 35222. Phone number: 205-719-3678

Suzanne Langley, Executive Director: suzannelangley@birminghamaudubon.org
 Andy Coleman, Ph.D., Program Director: andycoleman@birminghamaudubon.org
 Ansel Payne, Ph.D., Teaching Naturalist: anselpayne@birminghamaudubon.org
 Carolyn Henshaw, Membership/Volunteers: chenshaw@birminghamaudubon.org

Interested in a Volunteer Opportunity with Birmingham Audubon?

We haven't answered this recently posed question:

If one is to guess the number of hours volunteers have contributed to Birmingham Audubon programs, activities, policy initiatives, and projects over the past 70 years, what would it be? It might be easier to tally your sightings in the Perseid meteor shower. Volunteers working with Birmingham Audubon share their knowledge, learn new skills, pursue new interests, earn service hours for work or school, and improve the quality of life in the communities where we work. A wide range of volunteer opportunities during the next year offers flexible time commitments (one-time to regularly scheduled jobs) and varied experiences (teaching to citizen science) for both members and non-members. If you are interested in any of the opportunities listed below, a corporate volunteer program, or a different volunteer job you would like to contribute, please contact Carolyn Henshaw at 205-719-3678 ext. 1 or chenshaw@birmingham-audubon.org. Also visit birminghamaudubon.org to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

Bird Walk Volunteers – Intermediate to expert level birders are needed to lead or help bird walks for diverse audiences, including school groups, at Urban Bird Habitat Initiative sites and partner locations (e.g., Birmingham Botanical Gardens). Training available.

Birmingham Audubon Habitat Docents – Natural history enthusiasts who love to share their knowledge and enrich field trips in and around Urban Bird Habitat Initiative sites. Training available.

Citizen Science – Love to help with or want to learn to survey species and share data through an amazing range of apps and online programs? You would be amazed what is in your community and so would others. Training available.

Committees – Birmingham Audubon committees meet on a varied schedule from 1 to 8 times per year, and help shape programs, policies, and events. List of committees and job descriptions available.

Hospitality – If you are a volunteer who would like to greet members and visitors attending Birmingham Audubon programs and events—or someone who is not necessarily a people person, but enjoys coordinating beverages and snacks—we have a job for you! Schedules provided; we cover hospitality costs.

School Outreach Instructors – Volunteers are needed for in-school programming on bird identification, birding skills, native habitats, and other natural history topics. Orientation provided.

Membership – Why are you a member of Birmingham Audubon, and who do you believe would also enjoy membership? Several opportunities available including serving on the Membership Committee which meets 3-4 times/year, helping with occasional tasks for campaigns, correspondence and recruitment.

Office – Birmingham Audubon's office is located in the Avondale community. We can always use help with phones, volunteer recruitment and coordination, online communications, displays, and activity preparation.

Photographer/Videographer – Have an occasional hour here and there to help tell the Birmingham Audubon story? Whether you're interested in landscapes, people or birds and butterflies, we have an opportunity. Orientation provided.



John Porter 1927-2016

Past President of Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuaries

A memorial service was held August 19 on Dauphin Island for Dr. John F. Porter, Jr., past president of Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuaries and editor of *A Birder's Guide to Alabama*. A native of Birmingham, John began a distinguished career in higher education after military service. He was appointed to the first Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE), later served as ACHE executive director and retired from the University of Alabama. John's endless contributions to birding in Alabama included helping establish the Alabama Coastal Birding Trail, a term as President of the Alabama Ornithological Society, and tireless efforts to raise funds for land purchases to preserve Dauphin Island habitat. John is survived by

his wife Mary Flint Porter, past officer of Birmingham Audubon Board of Directors, his children, and grandchildren. The family requests memorial donations be made to Dauphin Island Bird Sanctuaries, Inc., P. O. Box 1295, Dauphin Island, AL 36528.

Thank you to donors who have made gifts to Birmingham Audubon in memory of members, leaders and friends.

Bill Ratliff Memorial Gift

Ann & Don Sweeney

Mary Lois Reynolds Albright Memorial Gift

Lyn C. Stafford

Timothy Denton

Laney DeJonge

Gifts to remember or honor individuals can be made online at: birminghamaudubon.org or by mailing your gift to Birmingham Audubon, 3720 Fourth Avenue South, Birmingham, AL 35222.



2016 - 2017

Birmingham Audubon Society Board of Directors

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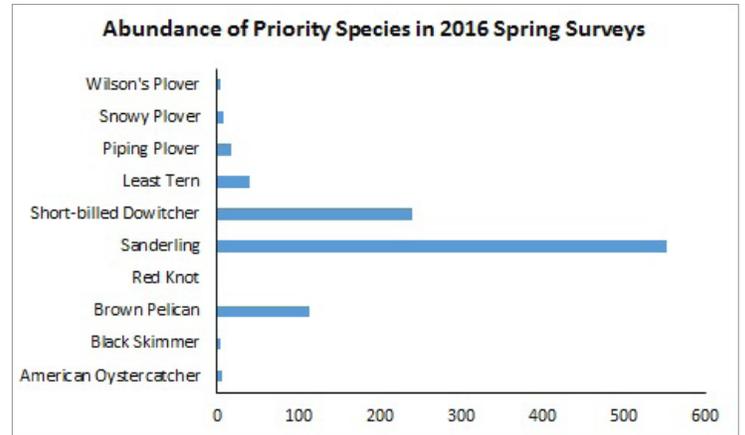
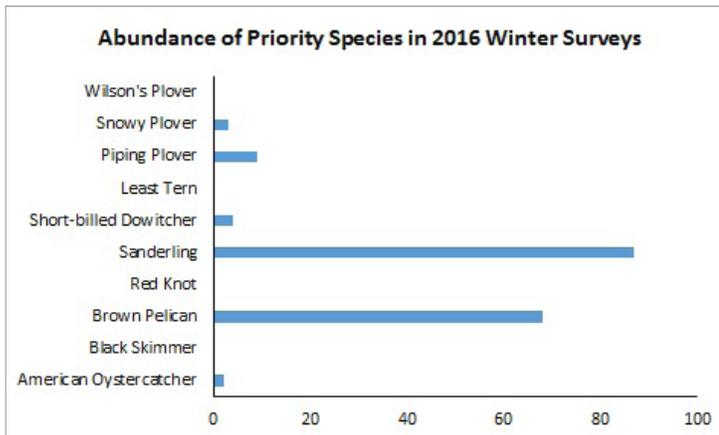
Volunteers Donate Over 50 Hours Toward Audubon Coastal Bird Survey Project

Fifteen volunteers spent over 50 hours surveying coastal bird populations during the 2016 winter and spring periods of the Audubon Coastal Bird Survey project.

Five of the twelve coastal routes were covered during both survey periods. This program started in the aftermath of the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010 in an effort to gather population data on coastal bird species. Data has been used to assess impacts from the environmental catas-

trophe that occurred in the Gulf.

Surveys will continue so that long-term population data sets are available to natural resource managers and scientists. The 2016 fall survey period runs from August 20 to October 30 and, if you are interested in joining the ACBS volunteer team, you can contact Birmingham Audubon Program Director, Andy Coleman, at andycoleman@birminghamaudubon.org.



Please Donate Your Archive Items!

Birmingham Audubon volunteer, Kay Kinnear, has been organizing the BAS archives this summer, and this library will be tremendous asset to the membership. It will help tell the rich story of Birmingham Audubon to future generations. Please donate any archival items you may have in your collections, including past Flicker Flashes. You can drop them off at the BAS office during normal business hours.



Golden Gate Audubon Board Member Visits Birmingham Audubon



Thanks to Google and the great Communications Committee volunteers, visitors are easily finding the Birmingham Audubon office in Avondale. We recently had a visit by Bill Hudson (center), treasurer of the

Golden Gate Audubon Society in San Francisco, who was relocating his son in Birmingham for a research assignment. It was

great to also have new board member Lois Woodward (left) who dropped by during Bill's visit. They're both pictured with Dr. Ansel Payne, Birmingham Audubon Teaching Naturalist. We all shared programs and volunteer efforts at both chapters. Bill reported that Golden Gate hosted 129 field trips last year! We recommended Ruffner Mountain and Limestone Park as nearby birding spots for his Birmingham visits. We also made certain that he had a copy of "A Guide to Birding Trails in Birmingham" and "Birding Alabama Forever Wild Sites" and knew about the alabamabirdingtrails.org for future visits. A special thank you to Jamie Nobles, Ruffner Conservation Director, for getting Bill oriented at one of our favorite birding spots within a 15 minute drive of downtown. Remember we have trail maps and birding guides for visitors while visiting "Birdingham."

Join and Support Birmingham Audubon

Are birds, wildlife and our natural habitat of interest to you?

If so, we invite you to be a part of a community that enjoys, values and protects birds and our natural world.

Founded in 1946, the Birmingham Audubon Society is Alabama's leading non-profit organization engaging people in the enjoyment and conservation of birds, their habitats and the natural world. With your support, we involve people through recreational birding, by extending their horizons with education programs, and by engaging them in conservation actions such as planting trees, counting birds, and working with local, state, and national policy makers.

There are many ways you can support Birmingham Audubon

Please join us and make a difference for birds and your quality of life, right here in Alabama!

Membership

Take the first step and become a Member of Birmingham Audubon. Get connected with our *Flicker Flashes* newsletter. See birds by participating in one of our free field trips, and learn something at one of our free monthly programs.

Make a Donation

We rely on your support and are proud to work on your behalf to restore wildlife habitat, conserve areas that are important to birds, and inspire appreciation and understanding of our natural world. Your generous donation, above and beyond the basic membership dues, is an important source of funding which allows Birmingham Audubon to facilitate our vital mission of connecting people with birds and the places they live.

Your memberships and donations support:

- Free monthly programs on natural science topics
- Free field trips led by expert birders to great birding / cultural locations
- Opportunity to attend Annual Banquet and Birmingham Audubon Mountain Workshop
- Introduction to great locations to see and observe birds
- Exposure to knowledgeable birders
- Travel opportunities to regional, national and international birding locations
- Graduate student research grants
- Local and statewide conservation initiatives
- Adult and student education initiatives
- Local, state and national conservation initiatives
- Alabama Birding Trails support

Birmingham Audubon Society Membership Application

Join Renew **Annual Membership: \$ 20.00**

Donation to support the programs & projects of Birmingham Audubon: \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Please make check payable to:

Birmingham Audubon Society

Please charge my credit card

Visa MasterCard

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Birmingham Audubon Society is an independent non-profit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Your donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Please keep my donation anonymous

Yes No

I want to receive communications electronically

Yes No

I want to be contacted to learn about volunteer activities

Yes No

If you are interested in joining National Audubon Society, visit: www.audubon.org

Birmingham Audubon's policy is to not share or sell our mailing list. Your privacy is of the utmost importance to us.

Birmingham Audubon Society
A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

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Email: basoffice@birminghamaudubon.org

Web Site: www.birminghamaudubon.org

Join us on social media:

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Twitter: @bhamaudubon

Please check your mailing label for your membership expiration date.

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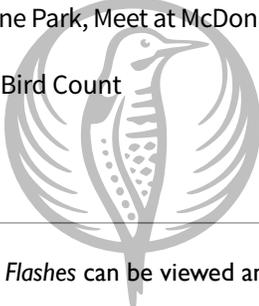
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Consider gifting a membership to Birmingham Audubon

www.birminghamaudubon.org
or 205-719-3678

September 2016

- 5 Russ Bailey Memorial Walk, 1/2 Day Field Trip
Ruffner Mountain Nature Preserve
- 9 Gosse Nature Walk, Avondale Park
- 15 BBG Bird Walk, Birmingham Botanical Gardens
- 15 Program: John Abbott, U of A Museum of
Natural History, Birmingham Botanical Gardens
- 17 Full Day Field Trip: Ebenezer Swamp &
Limestone Park, Meet at McDonalds, I-65 exit #238
- 24 BAS fall Bird Count



The Lending Library at Birmingham Audubon

The Birmingham Audubon Lending Library for members is off the ground and available as a resource during normal business hours Monday-Friday! Teaching Naturalist Ansel Payne has organized the library that has grown from generous donations by Elberta Reid, Harriet Wright, and Bob and Ann Tate.

The self-serve library is located near the second floor, interior entrance to Birmingham Audubon. If you would like to make a donation of books or to the cost of purchasing books for the library, please contact anselpayne@birminghamaudubon.org.

Visit the following link to take a look at books and guides currently available to members: <http://www.librarything.com/catalog/BirminghamAudubon>

Copies of *Flicker Flashes* can be viewed and downloaded from the Birmingham Audubon web site: www.birminghamaudubon.org