

FIELD TRIPS
SYLVA PARRILLO 734-4821

OCTOBER 27 (SAT) 9 AM
BIRDING CUMMER ROAD/SHELL CREEK.

Meet at Cyndy Barrow's at 1375 Conifer Court DeLand. From Truck Route, go West (at Poss Chiropractic) on Beresford Road (not Avenue) to first street on right.
Leader - Arnette Sherman at 734-5840.

NOVEMBER 17 (SAT) 1:00-3:00 PM
ECHO BOAT TOUR
MARINE DISCOVERY CENTER
NEW SMYRNA BEACH

The cost is \$18.00. YOU MUST MAKE A RESERVATION AND PREPAY BY NOV. 6TH. Call Sylva Parrillo at 386-734-4821 for reservations. Mail checks to WVAS AT PO BOX 1268, DELAND, FL 32721-1268.
To carpool meet at the Agricultural Center on East 44 at **noon**. Carpool fee is \$4.00.

NEW MEMBERS

Charles Aguero
Eve Anderson
Patti Bryant
Patricia Coltson
Jane Compson
Carl Elliot
Sandy Henry
Helen Lacoste
Robert Miller
Sharon Sweet
Dianne Van Brunt
Janet Webb
Frank Zarra

October 23rd Meeting
The Woman's Club of DeLand
128 W. Michigan Ave.

6:30 PM Mix and Mingle
7:00 PM Short Meeting
followed by the program

WILDLIFE REHABILITATION
Erin Holder, DVM

Wheelchair accessible, public welcome

THE **HUMMER**



NEWSLETTER OF WEST VOLUSIA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.
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MAKE IT, BAKE IT, GROW IT AUCTION

November 27th

Please gather up your items and help make this year's event a great fundraiser. Small items will be on the silent auction tables. Bigger items will be auctioned by a "SPECIAL" auctioneer. This event should be very lively and lots of fun. Ask your friends and businesses for donation items. Bring lots of guests. Make fundraising easy and fun! There will be a very brief program.

ULTRA-LIGHT WHOOPING CRANE MIGRATION

Operation Migration has set October 10th as their target date to begin flying to Florida with the next group of 17 cranes. You can follow their progress on their website at www.operationmigration.org. Click on "In the Field".

Operation Migration is again looking for financial support. Sponsor a mile or part of a mile if you can, or give without giving by using Good Search. While searching the internet, use GoodSearch.com, which is a search engine that donates about a penny a search to the charities its users designate. Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter Operation Migration as the charity you want to support.

GARAGE SALE

We need a new place to hold a garage sale. Requirements are some storage space for a month or so and room to hold the sale. Traffic and parking are important considerations. Call Arnette at 734-5840 for more information.

BOARD MEMBERS

OFFICERS

President			
VP Programs	John Eggert	736-6922	jeggert@cfl.rr.com
VP Conservation	Karyn Hoffman	956-1097	Karyn_hoffman@ml.com
Secretary	Elissa Emerson	736-0610	tobeyrainbow@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Mike O'Reilly	626-2726	danne057@cfl.rr.com

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Historian	Debra O'Reilly	734-9241	danne057@cfl.rr.com
Bird Counts	John Eggert	736-6922	jeggert@cfl.rr.com

CROW STORY

This year I got a call from a woman who said she'd found a baby crow and told me, "We've had it for a bit, it doesn't look like it's doing so good lately, and it has this thing on its wing". She asked me if I could "just look at it". The truth was that they'd had it for about a month, had fed it bread, grapes, and crackers, and kept it in a very small bird cage. What she brought me to just look at was the most pitiful bird I'd ever seen that was actually still alive. He was very thin, every feather on his body was greasy, broken, or falling out. He stank like a sewer. He had a large tumor-looking open wound on one wing and smaller ones on the other wing and body. And worse of all, he screamed every time I handled him as though he was in pain and terrified. I just couldn't imagine what this poor bird had gone through to get into this condition and I felt like crying.

I sent him to FloridaWild Vet hospital to see if the lesion on the wing needed to be surgically removed, which it didn't, and to biopsy it to see if it was some kind of cancer, which it wasn't. So he came home to me to start a new life on the road to recovery. He was put on antibiotics and painkillers and given periodic baths to clean what feathers he had and to rid him of the stench. And he discovered a whole new world of good food: fresh fruits & veggies, fresh meat in the form of mice, chicks, lizards, mealworms and wax-worms, dry puppy chow-softened and sprinkled with powdered vitamins & minerals, calcium, wheat-germ oil, and cod liver oil, and my famous baby bird "squirt" formula.

It's been almost 6 months now and he's slowly coming along. He has gained weight and molted in all new head and back feathers. He doesn't stink any more and best of all he is happy and relaxed. It turns out that he has a wonderful personality and greets me sweetly every time I come into the aviary. He loves to vocalize and I can hear him all day chatting to the other crows that are housed with him and to the wild crows that gather around the aviary waiting for leftovers from his gourmet meals. He still has a long way to go before his body is able to produce healthy wing and tail feathers but with every molt he feathers come in better and better. I'm confident that some day in the next 6 months or year he will finally be able to fly free and join his wild kin where he belongs.

Kathy Paynter

AUDUBON ADVENTURES

It's Audubon Adventures time again. It's time to sign up as a sponsor of this exciting program designed by National Audubon to teach 4th and 5th graders about their natural world. This year's Audubon Adventures kit is titled "Back from the Brink - Success Stories from the Endangered Species Act." The kit explores the successful recovery of the bald eagle, American alligator, grizzly bear, grey whale, plus other species that have been brought back from the edge of extinction. It is presented with fun activities and high interest articles. Science is an FCAT component this year in the public schools. The Adventures kit is gladly received by local teachers trying to increase their students' information level!

Please consider being a sponsor! To become a sponsor of an AA class, we ask for your check for \$46.65, which pays for 4 issues of the newspaper, with each student receiving his or her own copy, 4 posters, and a teacher's manual packed with information, research materials and fun ideas. Besides introducing environmental science to students, the program also meets national language arts standards.

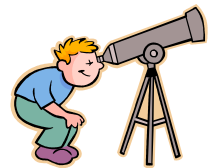
Sponsors may share the cost of a class. You may select your preference of grade level, school, and teacher, or you can leave it to Donna to decide for you. Mike O'Reilly, our treasurer, will accept your check at the meeting, or you can mail it to WVAS, P.O. Box 1268, DeLand, FL 32721-1268. Thank you for making the decision to become involved, or to continue with the program.

Donna Reynolds
Education Chairman

SUNDAY SCOPES

During the months of January through March, WVAS members with spotting scopes take turns taking their scopes to Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge on Sunday from about 2:00 to 4:00 PM. They invite visitors to look through their scopes at birds and other wildlife. People who have never used a scope are delighted to see features and colors they never saw before.

To volunteer,
call Cyndy Barrow at 736-6519



PLEASE MAKE THESE CORRECTIONS ON YOUR BROCHURE

ECHO BOAT TOUR is Nov 17, Saturday
LAKE WOODRUFF CARAVAN is Feb 21, Thursday
ECHO BUGGY at LONGLEAF is Feb 23, Saturday
Elaine Wadlers' phone is (386) 228-0065

MIGRATORY BIRDS

We're coming to that time of year when flocks of migrating birds will be joining us in Florida for the winter or just winging through on their way further south. The biggest hazards these migrants face is loose housecats, feral cats, and glass windows. Keeping house cats inside is one of the best ways people can help not only migrating birds in the spring and fall but breeding birds and baby birds all year long. Cats are natural hunters and there is nothing that stops a cat from following that instinct once they step out the door.

Unfortunately, many people are under the mistaken assumption that putting bells on a cat collar or de-clawing a cat or feeding it before letting it out will prevent the cat from catching birds. These methods are proven not to work. The ONLY thing that will keep a cat from killing a bird is preventing the cat from entering the bird's environment by keeping house cats inside.

If you find a bird that has flown into a window, never leave it outside lying on ground where it is vulnerable to any passing predator or ants or heat exhaustion. Place a towel in the bottom of a large box or PAPER (not plastic) grocery bag. Place the bird on the towel, close the box so he's in the dark, and put the box in a warm, QUIET place. Do not put any food or water in the container with the bird - he can't see in the dark any more than you can so he can't see to eat or drink. Besides, he will be too frightened or injured to eat or drink anyway.

Wait two hours and then take the bird into a bathroom with no windows. Place the box in the tub, close the shower curtain, and open the box. Watch the bird move - if he stumbles, falls over, or can't fly, place him back in the box, and call a rehabber. If on the other hand he can fly UP and around the tub area, then wait until he lands, turn out the light so he can't see you coming, gently scoop him up, place him back in the box, take the box out side, open it up and enjoy the site of him flying off to freedom.

Kathy Paynter

FALL BIRD COUNT

The total number of birds sighted was 2621 with 90 species counted.

There were 15 participants:

Cyndy Barrow, Lou and Lori Brakeman, Beth Cushing, John Eggert, Karyn Hoffman, Luddy Lamberton, Sylva Parrillo, Ralph Resch, Harry Robinson, Arnette Sherman, Dr. David Stock, Sarah Taylor, Helen Washington, and Marylou Weiner.

John Eggert



Photo by Arnette Sherman

CONSERVATION CORNER

At our September meeting, we enjoyed a fantastic presentation on Swallow-Tailed Kites by Dr. Ken Meyer from the Avian Research Conservation Institute in Gainesville. The presentation included video footage from nest-cameras showing the Kites flying into the nest and feeding their young. We learned that Kite numbers have declined in the Southeast US to the point that the population of Bald Eagles exceeds the Kite population. They're not on the endangered species list because there really wasn't the awareness and research of the species until recent years.

As you know from reading the last newsletter, local Audubon Chapters conducted nesting surveys last summer to assist Dr. Meyer in his research. We hope to continue next summer when the Kites return from South America to nest. Keep a watch in the newsletter or email me at alafial@earthlink.net if you want to participate in future surveys. Be warned, however, that these surveys do involve some sweaty, dirty hiking through water, woods and brush.

In water news, a positive for the City of Deland: a new water ordinance that embraces the Florida Water Star Program. The program encourages water efficiency in household appliances, plumbing fixtures, irrigation systems and landscapes. It is being promoted by the St. Johns River Water Management District and offers resources and incentives to builders and homebuyers who value water efficiency in new home construction. The program may later be expanded to include ways to update or retrofit older homes. With Deland's new city ordinance (takes effect with the new year), the city will credit back a portion of impact fees for water and sewer. The program also gives incentives to builders of single-family homes who leave existing plants (especially those that create shade) and who landscape with at least 50% native species the eligibility to receive up to a 15% rebate of paid impact fees. This is a "win-win" for all parties. Be sure to thank your City officials in writing, by telephone, or in person!

Watch for more news in the media and in this newsletter on the attempts to start pumping water south from the Ocklawaha River. The water battles are beginning!

Karyn Hoffman

Website www.volusia.org/birding/wvaudubon.htm



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The business cards that you see here are from individuals that have donated money to help support our newsletter. Please support them in their business if you can.

PROFESSIONAL PET PHOTOS

November 1, 2007

Make reservations early for a limited number of appointments. (Photo or grooming and photo)

K-9 KORNER

INJURED BIRD?

Contact a Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator:

Kathy Paynter
Kathy's E-Mail
Elaine Wadler

386-738-2589
kep@cfl.rr.com
386-228-0065