



**BUTTERFLIES – presented by  
 Fitz Clarke**

Please join Ogeechee Audubon, Tuesday, June 15th at 7:00 PM, for a talk and slide show about Chatham County's butterflies. Our speaker, Fitz Clarke, has been studying and photographing butterflies since 2006. He recently discovered and documented a species of butterfly that was last reported in Chatham County in 1967 -- the "King's Hairstreak"! Not only did Fitz locate this butterfly at Wormsloe State Historic Site, he also demonstrated that it has successfully reproduced there. This is but one of the species that Fitz will discuss, along with photos of the plants on which our local butterflies nectar and/or lay their eggs.

The meeting will be held at the **First Presbyterian Church, 520 E. Washington Ave, Savannah.** The program is free and open to the public. For more information call Beth @ 912-658-6136.

<b>Ogeechee Audubon's Mission</b>		
<b>Ogeechee Audubon educates adults and children about birds, wildlife, and the environment. We provide opportunities to enjoy the world around us, and advocate for responsible public policy and legislation for the conservation of our natural resources</b>		
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**LAUREL HILL WILDLIFE DRIVE at  
 SAVANNAH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE  
 CLOSED UNTIL AT LEAST JAN 2011**

**Laurel Hill Wildlife Drive at Savannah NWR will be closed starting June 17, 2010.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be replacing the water control structures associated with the Freshwater Diversion Canal, which runs adjacent to the east side of the managed freshwater wetlands at the Savannah National Wildlife Refuge. Harris Neck, Pinckney Island, and the other refuges are still open.

**April 10, 2010 - Skidaway Island**

The April 10th Ogeechee Audubon field trip started off cool and cloudy at 8:00 a.m. in a parking lot on Skidaway Island. We soon set off to hunt for Wood Ducks and Wood Storks at Priests Landing, where we were successful on both counts. Many birds were singing along the trail including Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Carolina Chickadees, and the ever-present Northern Cardinal. The next stop took us into The Landings, a gated community, where we battled swarms of sand gnats to glimpse Purple Martins swooping through the air gathering nesting materials. Oh, how I wished I had my 300 mm zoom camera lens! We continued on to a dog park in search of vireos and warblers. The White-eyed Vireos were singing their hearts out in a tune that a visiting birder described to me as "Quick, with a beer, quick!" That is one bird song I will never forget! As we were about to move on, a fellow birder told us of a lone Roseate Spoonbill perched in a bush across the road. Excitedly, we all went to look and I finally could add the spoonbill to my life list. The rest of the morning we spent watching nesting egrets and herons at The Rookery and lying in wait for a glimpse of a Brown-headed Nuthatch at Beth's backyard feeders. We didn't see the nuthatch, but all-in-all, we had one successful birding trip! Hope to see you again soon!  
 Lindsay

**Field Trips Jun - Aug 2010**

**June 5th; Saturday:** Donnelly Wildlife Management Area. Donnelly is located 60 miles north miles from downtown Savannah or 30 miles from Beaufort . It is located at the intersection of U.S. Hwy 17 and South Carolina Rte 303.

This site was scouted by chapter members Sandy Beasley and Brenda Brannen in April where they found numerous species in a variety of habitats. Meet at the Ride Share at I-95 and Hwy 21 at 7AM on June 5th. Leader to be announced

**Late July/ early August:** " Effingham Kite Show"; Join us to view the visiting Swallow Tail and Mississippi Kites as they put on an aerial show over freshly mown fields in Effingham County. **Specific date and time will be posted when information is finalized.**

**August 11; Wednesday:** Tybee Beach Birds. Join Diana Churchill in viewing gulls, terns and returning shore birds on the north beach of Tybee. Meet at the Polk Street parking area at 8 AM. **Be sure to bring quarters for the parking meters**

Bring binoculars, sun screen, snacks/lunch, water and appropriate clothing and footwear depending on the weather.

## BIRDING AT SAVANNAH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY - MAY 8

"I had forgotten just how much fun this is" was definitely my quote of the day. I have to admit to not being a morning person, which is a great drawback when one wants to learn more about birds. But I made the effort on Saturday, May 8, and was well rewarded for it. It was a beautiful day, less insects than usual, and there were birds everywhere in the refuge. Not to mention turtles, a marsh rabbit and some really HUGE alligators. Our group was diverse with some Ogeechee Audubon members, some local visitors, and some visitors from as far away as China and New Hampshire. Dot as our leader was wonderful, helping us all to see as many birds as possible. Some of my "firsts" that day (I've only been doing this about 2 years) were seeing a Clapper Rail, a Northern Parula, and a Common Yellowthroat. We heard a Red-eyed Vireo, identified by his very distinctive call, and saw many, many Red-winged Blackbirds. They were everywhere over the marshes. We also saw many other of the "usual suspects" such as Carolina Wren, Tri-colored Heron, Eastern Kingbird, Brown Thrasher, Orchard Oriole, Anhinga, Coot, and Least Bittern. It was a very enjoyable morning, spent in very enjoyable company, rewarded by the many sightings. I can't wait for the next field trip! However early in the morning it may be!

Cheryl Slusser

### APRIL 24 FIELD TRIP WEBB'S WET WEATHER WAS WONDERFUL

Yes, it was raining hard in the early morning on April 24, but five avid birders made the trek to Webb Wildlife Center near Garnett, SC despite the weather. As we sheltered in the dim morning light under the roof of the picnic shelter, we all questioned our sanity. But after about 20 minutes, the light grew stronger and the rain weaker, so we piled into our vehicles and headed out down the road. By the time we reached our first stop, the weather was dry and we were rewarded with 70 species of birds. Highlights included: Least Bittern; Prothonotary Warbler; nesting Little Blue Herons, Cattle Egrets and Green Herons; Wood Duck; Solitary Sandpiper; Ovenbird; Louisiana Waterthrush; Scarlet and Summer Tanagers; Orchard Oriole; Blue Grosbeak; Indigo and Painted Buntings; and singing Bachman's Sparrow. Not bad for a day that could have been a washout!

Dot Bambach

### COASTAL REFUGE VISITORS CENTER

The new Visitor Center, located near the Savannah National Wildlife Refuge is now open to the public. Hours are **9:00 am - 4:30 pm Monday through**

## GULF OIL SPILL INFORMATION

Steve Holzman, Administrator for Georgia Birders Online ([www.gos.org](http://www.gos.org)) sent the following email to GABO:

I'm currently stationed in Mobile doing GIS support for Wildlife Operations for the US Fish and Wildlife Service. I'd like to get the following out to birders in the region. (Consider this message if you are going to be in the Gulf anytime soon.....Georgia beaches are safe (for now).

To report oil on land, or for general community and volunteer information, please phone the BP response hotline on 866 448-5816.

To report oiled or injured wildlife, please phone 866 557-1401.

Volunteer opportunities exist in the Gulf Coast states and are being coordinated as follows:

Louisiana <http://www.volunteerlouisiana.gov/>  
Mississippi <http://www.volunteermisssissippi.org>  
Florida <http://www.volunteerfloridadisaster.org/>  
Alabama <http://www.servealabama.gov/2010/default.aspx>

Fishermen wishing to offer assistance in cleaning up the oil spill should phone the Vessel of Opportunities Program at 281 366-5511. Shrimp boats, oyster boats, and other vessels are being hired to deploy booms.

Please put the two hotline numbers in your pocket (or on your phone) and bird the beaches in the coming days/weeks. **Remember, it is unlawful to handle an injured or oiled bird.** Please leave this to those trained and authorized to do so. Call the hotline and follow their instructions. They should be able to get there in a reasonable amount of time.

NOAA forecasts show oil approaching Dauphin Island, AL on Thursday (this a projection based on modelling currents and winds and should be looked on as a weather forecast might be.

Thanks for your assistance,  
Steve Holzman USFWS Athens, GA

### ORPHANED BIRD CARE (OBC)

Pat Wolters and Nicole Janke care for orphaned birds. One way to thank them for their efforts is to donate funds for purchasing food. Wild Birds Unlimited has a donation jar for OBC. Call Pat Wolters at 912-598-9825.

Photo by Robin Gold  
Skidaway Wildlife Rescue

3-wk-old Great Horned  
owlet



### ELECTRONIC DELIVERY INFORMATION

The "Marshlander" can be emailed by contacting Sandra Morgan at [sandra@levyjewelers.com](mailto:sandra@levyjewelers.com) with the message "email my OAS newsletter", followed by your name, mailing address and email address. Subsequent newsletters will be emailed in PDF format. Download free software at [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com) if needed.

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**Ogeechee Audubon 2010 Chapter Membership Form      C0Z F020Z**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (w or m) \_\_\_\_\_

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May we send the newsletter to you by email? Y\_\_ N\_\_

Would you like to be notified by e-mail about upcoming meetings and events? Y\_\_\_\_\_ N\_\_\_\_\_.

Please mail this form with your check to:

**Ogeechee Audubon, attn. Membership  
P. O. Box 13424, Savannah, GA 31416**

Ogeechee Audubon – \$20 per household \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Receive "Marshlander")*

Senior (over 62)/Student – \$15 per household \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Receive "Marshlander")*

Joint Ogeechee & National – \$40 per household \_\_\_\_\_  
*(New members only. Receive "Audubon" & "Marshlander")*

Special Contribution \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

Current National Audubon members should return this form to be Chapter members. Send your National Audubon renewal directly to National when you receive their notice.

**Chapter Membership runs for the Calendar Year.**

*Contributions are tax deductible.*

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