



<http://www.santafeaudubon.org>

and



Santa Fe Audubon Society - Florida

**Santa Fe Audubon Society**

Melrose, FL



## **SPEAKER SERIES PROGRAM "OH, DEER"**

**Tuesday, DECEMBER 12**  
**speaker BECKY PETERS**

**6:45 PM** at Trinity Episcopal Parish Hall  
204 SR 26 downtown Melrose

*You do not need to be a Santa Fe Audubon Society chapter member to attend our Speaker Series programs.*

*All are welcome!*



Join us for our December program about White-tailed Deer.

White-tailed deer can be found throughout Florida from the panhandle to the keys. They prefer habitats with young, low-growing vegetation and edge, where the intersection of two different habitats allows deer to easily feed and avoid predators.

Deer are most active at dawn and dusk. When deer are alarmed, the tails are held erect and waved back and forth like a white flag, signaling a warning to other deer. When they are nervous, deer will stomp a foot and snort, before running off.

***The safety of our membership is of upmost importance, we encourage everyone to please wear a mask.***

The safety and well-being of our membership and board members is our top priority; therefore, our in-person Speaker Series may be postponed or canceled on short notice due to health related concerns. Cancellation notifications will be sent out via email, posted on our website and Facebook page.

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## **SFAS NEWS**

### **The Native Plant Connection**

(endemic)

**ETONIAH ROSEMARY**

*(Conradina etonia)*

**Annual Survey October 31, 2023**

The Etoniah Rosemary Survey is taken in Etoniah Creek State Forest every October. Santa Fe Audubon members and others were on three teams that volunteered this year.



The morning begins with learning to ID the Etoniah Rosemary plant, with or without blooms.



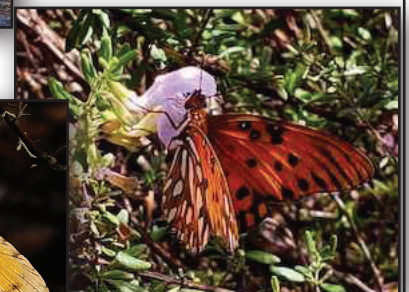
Flaggers mark the plants with pink survey flags.



Counters then come along, pull up the flags and then give their numbers to the Florida Forest Service leader.



*Sleepy Orange butterfly*



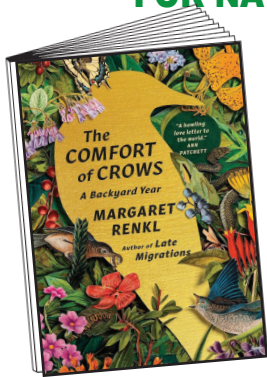
*Gulf Fritillary butterfly*

## RECOMMENDED READING

by Jacqueline Williamson



### HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS FOR NATURE ENTHUSIASTS



### THE COMFORT OF CROWS

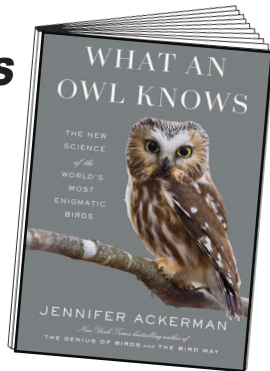
by Margaret Renkl

"The perfect gift for nature lovers, birders, and gardeners, with original color art throughout".  
— USA TODAY

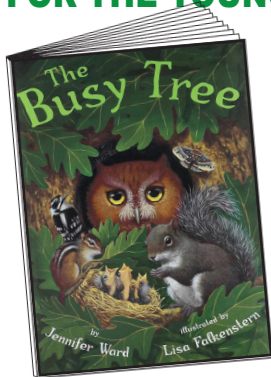
### WHAT AN OWL KNOWS

by Jennifer Ackerman

From the author of *The Genius of Birds* and *The Bird Way*, a brilliant scientific investigation into owls—the most elusive of birds—and why they exert such a hold on human imagination.



### FOR THE YOUNGER NATURE ENTHUSIAST



### THE BUSY TREE

by Jennifer Ward

Amazing illustrations and a rhyming text that describes a tree's activities from its roots to its branches, *The Busy Tree* introduces young readers to the wondrous activities that go on in a tree.

Makes a perfect gift for the 2-5 year old in your life.

### THE GIRL WHO DREW BUTTERFLIES

by Maria Sibylla Merian

One of the first naturalists to observe live insects directly, Maria Sibylla Merian was also one of the first to document the metamorphosis of the butterfly.

Richly illustrated with full-color original paintings by Merian herself, *The Girl Who Drew Butterflies* will enthrall young scientists.

A great holiday gift for your budding naturalist grades 5-7.



## BIRDS OF THE MONTH

### EASTERN PHOEBE

(*Sayornis phoebe*)

band code "EAPH"



### PALM WARBLER

(*Setophaga palmarum*)

band code "PAWA"

### YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER

(*Setophaga coronata*)

band code "YRWA"



### SAVANNAH SPARROW

(*Passerculus sandwichensis*)

band code "SAVS"

For more information about these winter visitors visit:

<https://www.allaboutbirds.org>

**Fun Facts:** Bird species have many collective nouns.

Sparrows: "crew", "flutter", "meinie", "quarrel" and "ubiquity"

Warblers: "bouquet", "confusion", "fall" and "wrench"

Flycatchers (Eastern Phoebes): "outfield", "swatting", "zapper" and "zipper"

# Field Trip to Gold Head Branch State Park

## November 18, 2023

6 Participants and over 20 species of birds, heard and/or seen, on the Mill Site Loop Trail.



Yellow-bellied Sapsucker



Cooper's Hawk  
- immature



False Turkey Tail



Dusky Pygmy Rattler



*Bidens Mitis*



Dog Hobble - new growth

## SPEAKER SERIES PROGRAMS

**Tuesdays, starting at 6:45PM**

at Trinity Episcopal Parish Hall,  
204 SR 26 downtown Melrose

You do not need to be a chapter member to attend our  
Speaker Series programs. All are welcome!

*Details will be in that month's Kite,  
which will be emailed, posted on our Website and  
Facebook page the first week of that month.*

**January 9, 2024**

### **YELLOW-EYED PENGUINS**

speaker Bill Cooper

**February 6, 2024**

### **NEW GRU WETLANDS**

speaker Debbie Segal

**March 12, 2024**

- **CONSERVATIONIST AWARD**
- **PHOTO SHOW**
- **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**April 9, 2024**

### **THE GULF**

speaker Jack E. Davis

**May 14, 2024**

### **BEES**

speaker Rachel Mallinger

## FIELD TRIPS

*Details will be in that month's Kite, which will be emailed,  
posted on our Website and Facebook page the first week of  
that month.*

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2024**

### **Masters Tract**

Hastings, FL

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024**

**(maximum 12 participants)**

### **Private Wetland Preserve near Rice Creek**

Palatka, FL

**MARCH ??, 2024**

**To Be Announced**

Gainesville, FL

**APRIL ??, 2024 (date and details in February)**

### **Gulf Boat Trip (Tidewater Tours)**

Cedar Key, FL

**SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024**

### **Sweetwater Wetlands Park for Bobolinks**

Gainesville, FL

### **ABOUT FIELD TRIPS**

*All field trips are subject to date change or cancellation due  
to weather, etc.*

### **TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT EMAIL**

**[santafeaudubonfl@aol.com](mailto:santafeaudubonfl@aol.com)**

When you make your reservation, please be sure to  
include your name, phone number and email and  
the number of participants.

- **BRING:** Water, binoculars, hat, sunscreen,  
rain gear and face covering.
- **WEAR STURDY WALKING SHOES.**
- **SFAS has sanitized binoculars to loan.**
- **Stay hydrated, be safe and have FUN!**

*We all must remember to maintain safe personal distancing.  
We suggest you bring your face mask just in case it is needed.  
It is easy to forget during the excitement of bird watching.*

## ACTIVITIES

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2024**

### **Yesterday's Festival at**

**Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park**

**Keystone Heights, FL**