



www.santafeaudubon.org and



Santa Fe Audubon Society - Florida

Santa Fe Audubon Society Melrose, FL **NOVEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13 SNAIL KITES AND CRESTED CARACARAS

Speaker, Dr. Ken Meyer of ARCI
(Avian Research and Conservation Institute)

Please join us for Dr. Ken Meyer's talk about the Snail Kite and Crested Caracara's amazing biology and behavior, while also making a very serious point about the lack of protection for these magnificent birds.

6:45 PM at Trinity Episcopal Parish Hall (204 SR 26 downtown Melrose) on Tuesday, December 13, 2022.

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

To learn more about ARCI visit their website: www.arcinst.org

Fun Facts:

A group of Kites has many collective nouns, including a "brood", "kettle", "roost", "stooping" and a "string" of Kites.

A group of Falcons (Crested Caracara) has many collective nouns, including a "bazaar", "eyrie", "ringing up", "stooping up", and "tower" of falcons.

The safety of our membership is of utmost importance, and we encourage everyone to 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 and posted on our website and Facebook page.

REMINDER TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15 Sunrise Wildlife Rehabilitation WILDLIFE AMBASSADORS

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!

BIRDS OF THE MONTH

SNAIL KITE

(*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) band code "SNKI"

Snail Kite photos courtesy of Dr. Jeff Smith



COOL FACT:

The oldest recorded Snail Kite was at least 14 years, 8 months old and lived in Florida..

For more information about Snail Kites visit:

[HTTPS://WWW.ALLABOUTBIRDS.ORG/GUIDE/SNAIL_KITE/
OVERVIEW](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/snail_kite/overview)

CRESTED CARACARA

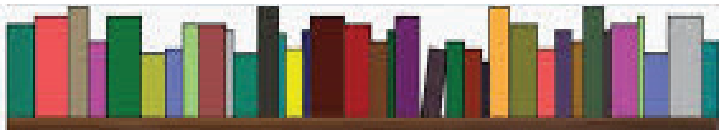
(*Caracara plancus*) band code "CRCA"



The Crested Caracara looks like a hawk with its sharp beak and talons, behaves like a vulture, and is technically a large tropical black-and-white falcon.

For more information about Crested Caracaras visit:

[HTTPS://WWW.ALLABOUTBIRDS.ORG/GUIDE/CRESTED_CARACARA/
OVERVIEW](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/crested_caracara/overview)



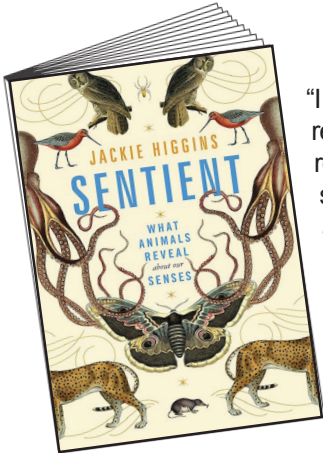
RECOMMENDED READING

from Jacqueline Williamson

SENTIENT

WHAT ANIMALS REVEAL ABOUT OUR SENSES

by Jackie Higgins



"I love this book because it reminds me of our wildness, it reminds me how powerful our senses are, and it celebrates animals and humans in a way that binds us together."

— Craig Foster, filmmaker and academy award winner of "My Octopus Teacher."

"Illuminating... an extraordinary book."

— *The Wall Street Journal*

"A masterpiece of science and nature writing."

— *The Washington Post*

GOOD NEWS

by Jacqueline Williamson



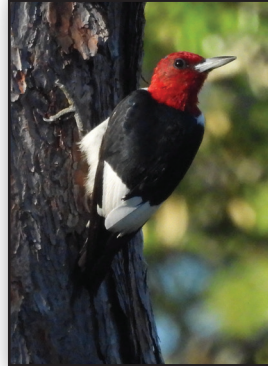
Black Skimmers

GOOD NEWS IN COASTAL CONSERVATION

Due to shifting sand, some new low lying islands emerged this spring in Nassau Sound resulting in new opportunities for nesting shorebirds. The FWC included these new islands in the North Sound Critical Wildlife Area. "No Boat Landing" signs were posted, and despite some erosion and storms, by mid August 2022 more than 12 Gull-billed Terns and 30 Black Skimmers had fledged.

Page
2 of 4

Magnolia Lake Field Trip October 22, 2022



Red-headed Woodpecker



Florida Paintbrush



Eastern Bluebird



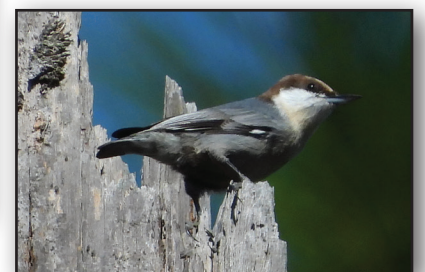
Cottony Goldenaster



Blazing Star and
Coastplain
Honeycombhead



Common Buckeye caterpillar
on host plant False Foxglove



Brown-headed Nuthatch

**ALACHUA AUDUBON
FIELD TRIP
SATURDAY DECEMBER 3, 2022**

Alachua Audubon has graciously invited
Santa Fe Audubon to join them on their
December Field Trip to

**LAKE CITY TREATMENT WETLANDS
Saturday December 3, 2022**

The Lake City Treatment Wetlands, opened in 2016, is a series of nine wetland cells constructed to treat Lake City wastewater. We hope to see a plethora of waterfowl, wading birds, and perhaps some rarities as we walk the dikes separating the cells. This is a GREAT opportunity because this site is not open to the public.

Please don't be late! The gate will be closed after we enter the site.

Meet trip leader Debbie Segal in the parking lot of Hitchcock's grocery store on US-441 in Alachua to carpool to the treatment wetlands near Lake City (you can also meet us at 8:30 at the SS Food Store a block west of I-75 at Exit #423).

Difficulty: 1

Within easy access to the vehicle and/or level terrain; 1 mile or less.



**BIRDING ETHICS
(including photography)**

Practical guidelines that aim to mitigate the stress birds and their habitats face when humans intrude.

- Leave pets home
- Bring binoculars
- Mute cell phones
- Gently close vehicle doors
- Talk softly/whisper
- Keep bird call playback and pishing to a minimum.
- Walk quietly in woods (pick up feet)
- Avoid using a flash when taking photographs
- Keep your distance
- DO NOT flush or disturb birds (especially during spring nesting season)
- Stay on established trails
- Be alert for bird sounds/movements
- Coughing/sneezing? Stay away from group or, if possible, in vehicle
- Respect other birders
- Wear earth tone color clothing, when possible
- Stay hydrated and safe

**SANTA FE AUDUBON
SPEAKER SERIES PROGRAM
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023
SPEAKER & TOPIC TO BE ANNOUNCED**

**FIELD TRIP
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2023
LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED**



BECOME A CHAPTER MEMBER TODAY!

August 2022 – July 2023

All chapter membership dues support local activities, programs,
& projects of Santa Fe Audubon & are tax deductible.

Regular Chapter Member:

Individual \$20

Family \$30

OR Become a Special Chapter Supporter!

Eastern Bluebird\$50

Swallow-tailed Kite\$100

Bald Eagle\$250

Whooping Crane.....\$500

Ivory-billed Woodpecker\$1000

Make check payable and mail to:

Santa Fe Audubon Society

PO Box 533 • Melrose, FL 32666-0533
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

COUNTY _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

Are you now a member of National Audubon? Y / N

National Audubon Society

Benefits: Receive Audubon magazine;
learn more about national conservation issues.

To join, go to www.audubon.org;
click on "Join Audubon" at bottom of the page.

THANK YOU!

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the
Division of Consumer Services by calling Toll-Free within the State. Registration does
not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State.

1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) SFAS registration number CH30159

kite 8-2022