



Santa Fe Audubon Society  
Melrose, FL

# AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER

<http://www.santafeaudubon.org>

and



Santa Fe Audubon Society - Florida

## SFAS NEWS



### IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR!

To renew your 2023-2024 membership, a membership form is on page 4 of this newsletter and can also be downloaded from our website.

If you are not able to download and print it, you can simply send your payment (please make check payable to Santa Fe Audubon Society) and mail it to Santa Fe Audubon Society, PO Box 533, Melrose, FL 32666-0533. Please be sure to include your name, address, phone number and email.



SFAS is bringing back  
**Drawing Prizes**  
beginning at our  
October 10 Speaker Series Program

### SFAS DISPLAY AT THE BRADFORD COUNTY LIBRARY IN STARKE, FL



On display through mid September.

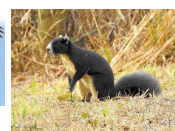
### ONLINE JIGSAW PUZZLES



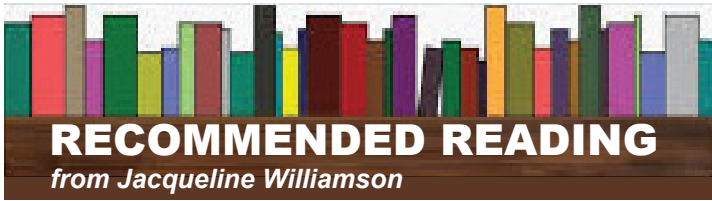
#### FLORIDA WILDLIFE EXTENSION Wildlife Happenings

Click on the link below to check out the "Wildlife Happenings" in our area.

[https://wec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/wildlife\\_info/happenings/](https://wec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/wildlife_info/happenings/)



<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/SantaFeAudubonFL/santa-fe-audubon>



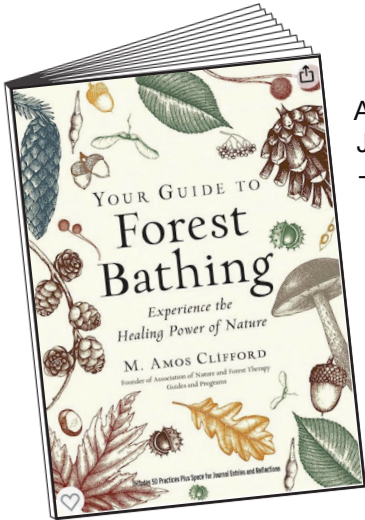
## RECOMMENDED READING

from Jacqueline Williamson

### YOUR GUIDE TO FOREST BATHING

#### EXPERIENCE THE HEALING POWER OF NATURE

by M. Amos Clifford



A practice inspired by the Japanese tradition of shinrin-yoku, Forest Bathing is a gentle and meditative approach to being present and calm in nature.

This best selling guide with practice activities will help you heal and decompress by reconnecting with nature.

## GOOD NEWS

by Jacqueline Williamson

### FOR COASTAL CONSERVATION!

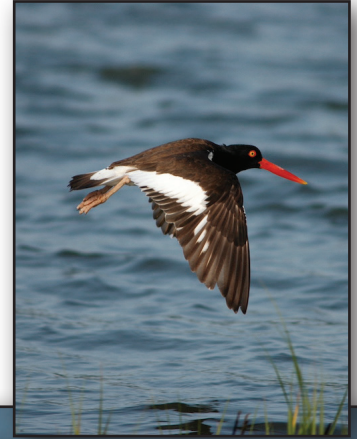


Fort DeSoto County Park has fledged its first American Oystercatcher in more than 20 years. The adult female parent was banded as a chick in Georgia. A total of three healthy chicks fledged, and at just over one month old were banded. This is great news for the future of this iconic species on our west Florida coast.

## BIRD OF THE MONTH

### AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHER

(*Haematopus palliatus*)  
band code "AMOY"



All American Oystercatcher photos are courtesy of Jacqueline Williamson.

A boldly patterned shorebird with red-yellow eyes and a vivid red-orange bill, American Oystercatchers survive almost exclusively on shellfish—clams, oysters, and other saltwater mollusks. Because of this specialized diet, oystercatchers live only in a narrow ecological zone of saltmarshes and barrier beaches. Along much of the Pacific Coast they are replaced by the similar but all-dark Black Oystercatcher. American Oystercatchers are numerous but sensitive to development and traffic on the beaches where they nest; they are on Partners in Flight's Yellow Watch List.

### COOL FACTS:

The oldest American Oystercatcher was at least 23 years, 10 months old. It had been banded as an adult in Virginia in 1989 and was found in Florida in 2012.

For more information about American Oystercatchers go to:  
[https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/American\\_Oystercatcher/overview](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/American_Oystercatcher/overview)

**Fun Fact:** A group of Oystercatchers are collectively known as a "parcel" or "stew" of Oystercatchers..

## SPEAKER SERIES PROGRAMS

October 10, 2023

### BATS

speaker Donna Bear

November 14, 2023

### CARDINALS

speaker Katie Sieving

December 12, 2023

### WHITE-TAILED DEER

speaker Becky Peters

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

*Reservations will be required & all field trips are subject to date change or cancellation due to weather, etc.*

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 21, 2023**

*Morningside Nature Center for Fall Wildflowers*  
Gainesville, FL

**NOVEMBER ??, 2023**

to be announced

**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

**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



# BECOME A CHAPTER MEMBER TODAY!

## August 2023 – July 2024

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 \_\_\_\_\_

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### **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](http://www.audubon.org); click on “Join Audubon” at bottom of the page.

### **THANK YOU!**

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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 8-2023