

# Birdsong Nature Center

Nov. - Dec. 2018

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### November

Thurs.	Nov. 1	Butterfly Garden Work Day
Fri.	Nov. 9	Hurricane Cleanup Work Day
Sat.	Nov. 10	Take a Child Outside
		Hurricane Cleanup Work Day
Fri.	Nov. 16	Hurricane Cleanup Work Day
Sat.	Nov. 17	Raptors of the Red Hills
Sat.	Nov. 24	Thanksgiving Super Walk`
Fri.	Nov. 30	Hurricane Cleanup Work Day

### December

Sat..	Dec. 1	Hurricane Cleanup Work Day
Thurs.	Dec. 6	Butterfly Garden Work Day
Fri.	Dec. 7	Hurricane Cleanup Work Day
Sat.	Dec. 8	Lost Creek Forest Walk
Fri.	Dec. 14	Hurricane Cleanup Work Day
Sat.	Dec. 15	Winter Solstice Celebration
Sat.	Dec. 22	<b>Birdsong will be closed from December 22 through January 4</b>



### January

Fri.	Jan. 4	<b>Center reopens</b>
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#### BIRDSONG NATURE CENTER

**WEB SITE:** [www.birdsongnaturecenter.org](http://www.birdsongnaturecenter.org)

**EMAIL:** [birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org](mailto:birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org)

**TWITTER:** @BirdsongNatureC

**FACEBOOK:** Birdsong Nature Center

**YOUTUBE:** Birdsong Nature Center



#### BIRD WINDOW AND TRAIL HOURS

Wednesday	9 AM - 5 PM
Friday	9 AM - 5 PM
Saturday	9 AM - 5 PM
Sunday	1 PM - 5 PM

#### Bird Window and Nature Trails

Welcome to Birdsong! Enjoy the beauty and serenity of the Bird Window and learn to identify resident and visiting birds up close. Walk the Nature Trails to observe wildlife in a variety of habitats and enjoy the sounds of nature at the Listening Place. Before you leave, you may want to visit the Chickadee Corner Gift Shop. We hope you enjoy your stay!

*All visitors please sign in at the Registration Center. Trail maps are provided. Pets, trash and fires are not permitted.*

#### Registration

Please register for all programs by calling or emailing: (229) 377-4408, 1 (800) 953-BIRD, Birdsong Office  
Fax line (229)-377-8723, or [birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org](mailto:birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org)

Dear Friends,

Birdsong's annual appeal letter will soon be mailed, and we sincerely hope you will keep Birdsong in mind as you consider end-of-year donations to organizations that you support. Since you likely will receive many such requests, some background on what is going on - why organizations make this annual effort, and what Birdsong's appeal hopes to accomplish - might be useful.

A not-for-profit's annual appeal provides its members with an opportunity to personally support the organization's mission in a major way. That is, if you strongly believe in what the organization stands for and works to achieve, here's a highly effective way to see that it is successful in its efforts. Typically, the annual appeal occurs at the end of the year, providing a tax benefit to the donor, and it is designed to generate significant funding for day-to-day operations and services of the organization. Birdsong's annual appeal letter is intended to let our donors and members know what the significance of your giving is to the larger conservation and education mission of Birdsong and our contribution to the community. Annual membership support is somewhat different; this funding supports operations too but can be renewed throughout the year and provides direct and experiential benefits to the donor. We sincerely appreciate both kinds of giving! The generous financial support of our members and donors is the real reason Birdsong is here today. We simply wouldn't exist otherwise, and we thank you in advance for your thoughtful contribution to this year's annual appeal.

We know that this year there are many important causes to fund; nearby communities are still recovering from a natural disaster, nation-wide there are big problems to solve and highly consequential political campaigns are on-going. We want you to know that we greatly value your gift, it makes a huge difference to Birdsong's wellbeing, and we assure you it will be used carefully as intended.

Your appeal letter will be arriving soon. Thank you for your support of Birdsong and its mission!  
Sincerely,

Joe Peresich, President  
Board of Directors

*Birdsong's mission is to foster awareness, understanding, and appreciation of nature and its interrelationships. Our goals are:*

- *To educate and inspire leaders, teachers, and the public about the natural world through direct discovery and hands-on learning,*
- *To promote a sense of personal responsibility for the environment; and,*
- *To manage Birdsong's acreage as a living museum and outdoor classroom by encouraging diversity of plants, animals, and habitats through the use of ecologically appropriate land management practices.*

## **EDBLE GINGERS**

**Put on your calendar!  
Old-Timey Plant Sale  
3rd Saturday in March  
March 16, 2019**



My mother used to tell me to make myself "useful as well as ornamental." One of the joys of growing gingers is that many truly are both! Many are edible, used as a spice in Asian and Indian cooking. Some are said to have utility as herbal remedies. And all come with lush foliage and beautiful flowers. They range widely in size, and are not picky about growing conditions, adapting to varying sun levels and tolerating drought or tropical storm overloads of rain.

The tallest, making a great backdrop for a garden setting is the Thai ginger *Alpinia galangal*, also called Greater Galangal. The roots are used in soups and curries. It prefers rich, moist soil in a protected, shady position and will die back in a hard freeze, but will reliably grow back, coming up relatively late in spring. The flowers are upright, white to yellow. The plants can grow 8 to 10 feet high and digging up the roots can be a challenge if they have been in the ground for a while. You will need a sharp spade to cut through a section of the network of roots. Once you've dug up a section, if you want to use it to infuse a soup, the root of the galangal is usually sliced unpeeled. For curry pastes it is peeled and chopped with other paste ingredients.

Turmeric is a smaller ginger, said to have many health benefits as well as uses in cooking. The most common, native to southwest India, is yellow turmeric, the root of the *Curcuma longa* plant. It has a brown/yellow skin and orange/yellow flesh. It is often referred to as "Indian saffron." Note that turmeric will spread -- deeply and outward. It can be difficult to dig it all out if you want to move it, so be sure you plant it where you want it. But rest assured you will soon have enough to make your own Asian dishes and tea. Turmeric has lovely flowers near the base of the plant and broad leaves in a lighter green than galangal or regular ginger.

Last and least in height but not interest is the edible ginger *Zingiber officinale*. This is the ginger root you can buy in the produce section of the grocery store, also called Chinese Ginger. These ginger plants have narrow bladed leaves and grow up to 4 feet tall by 3 feet wide. Freshly dug ginger is a treasure, more aromatic and tender than store bought ginger. It can be used in cooking or chopped and boiled in water to make a reviving tea when you feel under the weather from a cold or digestive upset.

All these gingers will be available at the **March 15, 2019 Old-Timey Plant Sale**. They will be sold as bare tubers, but they will quickly grow in your garden and by late summer you should have enough to harvest some roots for cooking.

For photographs of these plants and a few recipes, see Birdsong's website.

- Kris Dougherty

**WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION**  
**Saturday, December 15, 2018**  
**\$8 adults, \$5 children**

*4 to 5pm* Arrive early, bring your own hot or cold drinks, a picnic supper, lawn chairs or blanket, and settle in to enjoy the evening.

*4:50pm* Annual Meeting of the Members

*5:00pm* Listen to the music and angelic voice of Velma Frye.

*5:45pm* Welcome and lighting of the bonfire, accompanied by Bradley White and friends on their didgeridoos.

Once the bonfire is going strong, we will "throw the bamboo". Each person will be given a bamboo stick to throw in the fire where it will explode and create good intentions for the coming year.

*Around 6:30* We will walk out to the Star Pasture for a guided observation of the night sky. Dress for the weather, bring a blanket to lie on to observe the stars, and bring your binoculars or scope for viewing and a flashlight.

*Rest of the evening:* Contemplate the Universe with your family and friends, warm up around the bonfire, and enjoy more didgeridoo music.

It is our hope that this evening will give you a moment to connect with nature, to be with your friends, to consider what really matters to you at this time of year, and experience some peace and quiet under the night sky before heading back to a busy holiday season.

**PLEASE NOTE:** This is an all-outdoor event. At this time of year there is always a chance of rain, so please pay attention to the weather and call before you come if you have questions. You can also check our website and Facebook page. If it rains several days in advance it can soak the bonfire, which may not have time to dry out before the event, as well as the ground where we'll be sitting.

Dress for the weather and remember to bring: your favorite drinks, a picnic supper (no food provided), blanket, lawn chairs, flashlight, and binoculars.

Contact us at: [birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org](mailto:birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org) or 1(800)953-BIRD(2473)

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS**  
**Saturday, December 15 4:50pm**

All members of Birdsong Nature Center are invited to attend an Annual Meeting of the Members at the start of this year's Winter Solstice Celebration. This brief meeting will include an introduction of Board members and the annual election. We invite you to stay and enjoy the Solstice Celebration.

The main item on the Annual Meeting agenda is the election of the Board of Directors for 2018-2019. The Nominating Committee will announce this year's slate on our web page by December 1<sup>st</sup>, and it will include nominee Margaret Tyson, of Cairo, Georgia. Current members serving are President Joe Peresich, Treasurer Bill Preston, Woody Search, Jim Antista, Mike Brezin, and Ellery Sedgwick. We offer our sincere appreciation for their years of dedication and commitment to Birdsong.

We invite you to meet your Board of Directors and fellow Birdsong members, vote at the corporate meeting, and stay for the Winter Solstice Celebration. We'll look forward to seeing you there!

**TAKE A CHILD OUTSIDE**  
**For The Holidays!**  
**Saturday, November 10**  
**9:30-Noon**

**RAPTORS OF THE RED HILLS**  
**Saturday, November 17**  
**11AM – 12:30PM**

Bring your favorite child to Birdsong and enjoy a morning in the woods with Sandra Sallee, as you get an early start on preparing for our fall and winter holidays. Give your young person an alternative approach to holiday giving this year and let them collect their own natural materials to make a Thanksgiving item or holiday gift. Each child can take a collecting bag and Sandra will lead us out on a natural treasure hunt to discover what nature has to offer! This is harvest time, with nuts, berries and leaves in profusion. Back at the Barn turn your child's imagination loose to create whatever item he or she wants, or let them make a small candleholder or surprise gift item with the materials you have collected.

\$5 Friends, \$8 nonmembers, children half-price. Make **RESERVATIONS, PLEASE** by noon on Friday, November 9th, so we know what materials to provide. Call (229)377-4408 or (800)953-2473 or email [birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org](mailto:birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org).

Live, Native birds of prey - hawks and owls - will help St. Francis Wildlife Association's education director Sandy Beck share their personal stories, the amazing adaptations that enable them to hunt and survive, the important roles these raptors play in Florida and south Georgia ecosystems, and what we can all do to help them. Your heart will soar with each bird's unique power and beauty. For adults and school-aged children.

\$6.00 Friends, \$10.00 non-members, children half-price. **RESERVATIONS, PLEASE.** Call (800)953-2473 or email by Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at noon to reserve your space.



**HURRICANE CLEANUP WORK DAYS**  
**Fridays: November 9, 16 30 and**  
**December 7, 14**  
**Saturdays: November 10 and December 1**  
**9:00 to Noon**

We would appreciate volunteer help with getting Birdsong's trails and firelanes cleaned up after Hurricane Michael. Please join Alan Parker, our Land Management Assistant, and new intern Stewart Harrison, to cut and move trees, limbs, debris, etc. from a number of areas on the property. We will start with the main trails and then move to the firelanes. If you are an experienced chain-saw operator, we can use your help. If you can pick up branches and debris, you are equally welcome. Come out and enjoy some useful exercise with some wonderful people!

Dress for the weather, wear long pants and boots or closed-toed shoes, and bring work gloves, loppers and saws. Bring a picnic if you want to stay afterwards. Please let us know you are coming. Call 229-377-4408 or email [birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org](mailto:birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org) to sign up or for more information.

## LOST CREEK FOREST WALK

Saturday, December 8

9:30 to Noon

Lost Creek Forest is a very special place. Join us for a wonderful opportunity to walk the woods with founding member Beth Grant, who played a primary role in saving this unique forest from development. From the website:

“Lost Creek Forest, on publicly owned land near the airport in Thomas County, Georgia, is a pristine beech, magnolia, spruce and pine slope forest and wetlands that have seen very little disturbance. The forest is a unique remnant of our natural heritage, in much the same condition as it would have been found by the first human inhabitants and the first Europeans to visit the Americas. Lost Creek is an intact climax hardwood forest. No other forests of this size with similar characteristics are known to exist in South Georgia. Lost Creek Forest is a wonderful combination of slope forest, seeps, floodplain, creeks and several different ecosystems--all within walking distance of each other.”

Beth will tell us the story of how this property was preserved, how it is used now for education, and will lead us on an enjoyable leisurely walk through a very old forest. Please see the Lost Creek Forest website at [www.lostcreekforest.weebly.com](http://www.lostcreekforest.weebly.com) for more information and click on “Directions and Maps” for directions to the site. Please keep this phone number with you, so in case you need help finding the site on the day you can call us: 229-200-2564.

No charge for this program. We hope you will join us for this great opportunity to immerse yourself in the beauty and atmosphere of this ancient forest – this is a great conservation story and there is nowhere else like it! Please contact the Birdsong office in advance if you have any questions: 800-953-2473 (BIRD), or [birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org](mailto:birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org).

## THANKSGIVING SATURDAY SUPER WALK

Saturday, November 24

9:00AM – Noon

Join Birdsong volunteer Beth Grant and retrace the route our late friend mathematician Don Hill developed for a marvelous nature walk he used to lead annually. His description still applies:

“Too much turkey? Got cabin fever? Want your visitors to experience the Red Hills of North Florida/South Georgia? We will leisurely explore several miles of Birdsong’s less-traveled trails. Spring Pond, Frog Pond, Big Bay Pond, Big Bay Swamp, Upper Pond and Farm Pond will be waypoints as we experience Birdsong’s rich and varied habitats with all they have to offer. Our path will be the loop that maximizes the enclosed area.” Beth Grant has led this walk now for a number of years and has made it her own. Beth’s special interests include native plants and their ecological significance. You will enjoy her observations and interesting additions to the route!

\$5 Friends, \$8 nonmembers, children half-price.

## BUTTERFLY GARDEN WORK DAYS

Thursdays, November 1 and December 6

9:00AM to Noon

Please join our Butterfly Garden volunteers on the first Thursday of the month to tend our beautiful Butterfly Garden! Bring gardening gloves, knee pads, clippers, and lunch if you wish to stay afterwards.

For more information call Donna Legare at (850)386-1148 or Birdsong at (229)377-4408.



## BIRDSONG JULY

I walk along in early morning light and hear the call of the lone Bobwhite.

Grass footsteps on the Gin House Field stroll,  
A vast expanse of land unfolds

Skippers and gulf fritillaries dot the path I take,  
Bluebirds , tanagers, vultures, peaceful lake

Common yellowthroat on green nearby  
Peewees and pilaeateds call from on high.

Big bay swamp with heavy summer air,  
Frogs, crows, Cicadas, red bellies, everywhere

Listening Place collects it all,  
Bullfrogs grunt , doves’ mournful call

Forest view, relaxing sounds,  
How happy to be where nature abounds

## WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT NOTES

### October 29, 2018

We hope all of our dear friends and members came through Hurricane Michael with very few problems. Our hearts go out to all who sustained damage of any kind and we wish you a rapid recovery.

**Weather: Hurricane Michael** Did not see that coming. At Birdsong the week prior we were busy and excited, getting ready for Sammy Tedder's benefit concert on the 13<sup>th</sup>; we were focused on getting the "outdoor theater" ready for company. I had been taking a media break that weekend after a disturbing news week and only learned that a hurricane was coming Sunday night, thanks to a friend RSVPing about the concert and saying they'd planned to go to the beach the following weekend, but a hurricane was coming. That was a surprise. Alan swung into action the next day and got the Bird Window protected and we started stowing anything that could get blown around. By Tuesday we were as ready as we could get for an approaching Category 4. Alan and Mirhi and I went on our way to prepare as best we could at our homes.

It was a rough day and night for all of us, wasn't it. As so many of us do, I live under tall trees, so the sense of impending threat was great. Losing power and contact with what was happening was extremely isolating, and fearing what this would bring to our neighbors in communities to the west and our precious coastline was distressing. We just had to settle in and deal with what was happening in the present moment, and talk to a friend now and then on the phone for reassurance. It was nerve-wracking. At least it passed through relatively fast.

I was one of the lucky ones – no damage to the house I live in; some of my friends were not so fortunate. My neighborhood in Tallahassee was without power for 5 days; couldn't get off my street for a day. I made my way to Birdsong the morning after...had to drive through my landlord's back yard to get out and couldn't go up Meridian Road, trees and poles down everywhere. Thomasville Road was down to one lane, broken poles and snapped trees down for nearly a mile; no traffic lights working anywhere.

I went the long way round up 319 to get to Birdsong. There was debris on the driveway and a fallen tree halfway up – I climbed through it and walked up to the house, dreading what I might find, concerned for our historic buildings. There were a lot of branches and pine debris scattered everywhere but miraculously Birdsong's buildings were spared. We had no serious damage to any of our structures. Metal roofing was torn off the equipment shed and wavy shed, the shed roof on the back of the Barn had been pulled off its upright, and some of the metal roofing on the north side of the Barn was pulled up, but that was it. Nothing had fallen on the vehicles. We were very fortunate.

I took the mule out to investigate what had happened to the land and got blocked pretty quickly everywhere I went; there were lots of trees down across the trails. Had to go cross-country to get to the Listening Place, but there again,

no damage at all. Seeing so many big trees down was hard; I couldn't take much of this at one time and turned back to go home and when I got back to the house Alan was there and had already cut up the tree blocking the driveway. We had no power or water, the trails were not safe, so we closed the center until we could make it safe for visitors. It took a week for power to be restored and we had no internet for another few days. We couldn't email our members about what was happening, but fortunately Joe and Tami were able to get messages posted on our Facebook, Twitter and web pages. Joe had to go to a Starbucks to get online to accomplish this.

For the past week Alan and our new intern from Southwest Georgia Technical College, Stewart Harrison, have been busy clearing trails and debris. Donna, Jody and Chase from Native Nurseries came out and cleared out a huge pecan limb, half of a big tree, that fell in the Butterfly Garden. It damaged some wild azaleas and some struts across the top of the arbor, but otherwise the harm was not extensive. They worked very hard and cleared the garden in one long session and we thank them for this effort. Our volunteer construction crew quickly repaired the barn shed roof and fixed a broken pipe and drinking fountain at the outdoor restroom, so we were able to re-open on Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>.

Now that operations are more or less restored and we can have company again, we are assessing the damage to our woods. Alan has counted 45 places where trees are down across trails or firelanes. It is of course distressing to see so many beautiful trees down. Many are old friends and have been familiar features of the Birdsong landscape for decades. One tree in particular we are very sad to lose is a huge old white oak tree in Chuck's back yard. That tree was the playground for numerous generations of fox squirrels who nested nearby. For many years a mother squirrel brought her babies to Chuck's. He used to put out whole pecans for them. We called her Shrug because she was solid silky black except for a dusting of silver over her shoulders and arms, like a bolero. I recall one time when another bigger fox squirrel chased her all through that tree, here to there and back again, and she finally stood her ground and flattened herself against the top of a huge horizontal limb. The other squirrel kept circling and shoving and nosing around her body, and she would occasionally clearly say No. We finally figured out that it must have been a big fast-growing baby that she was trying to wean. He was very insistent but she plastered herself flat against the tree like a limpet. Enough already! The tree was blown completely over and the roots are now exposed. It was a tall stately tree, white-barked, providing wonderful green shade in summer. One spring, it was home to a family of chickadees – they lived in a hollow of a broken branch and Chuck got to watch them build the nest, feed babies and see them fledge and learn to hunt with the parents. The entrance to the broken branch was facing down, they had to hover to go in the cavity and would hang on upside down. That magnificent old tree will be deeply missed.

**Land Management** We had planned on doing some fall burning to get caught up, but with all the fallen trees on our trails and firelanes, we will have to focus now on clearing. We have scheduled some workdays in this newsletter and would very much appreciate your help. It is imperative we get the firelanes cleared so nothing further delays us getting our burning done this next season. Unfortunately, some of the worst tree-falls we had are huge tangled messes in multiple locations on the firelanes.

**Squirrels** For about three weeks before the hurricane a very unusual squirrel came regularly to eat at the Bird Window. None of us had ever seen one like her - she was small and delicate, tiny even, but not a baby. Her coat was pale silver-gray, almost white beneath silvery guard hairs, giving her an ethereal, almost opalescent look. We called her Pearl. She was usually alone on the tree-stump eating sunflower seeds. On the one or two occasions I saw her when other squirrels were around, they would intimidate her and push her off the feeder, although she wouldn't run away. Unfortunately, she has not been seen since the hurricane. I have never observed a more beautiful little squirrel - she almost looked like a different species. We are still hoping for her return.

From the sublime to the...creepy. Every fall we get comments from Bird Window visitors about the squirrels who have what is known as "warbles". These show up as lumps of varying sizes on a squirrel's body, with what looks like a small wound right on the top, often with raw patches where the squirrel has been scratching. These are the larvae of botflies that have entered the squirrel's body and made their way to places under the skin where they then grow. The "wound" is an opening or breathing hole for the developing insect. The affected squirrels go about their business but these lumps get quite large. You can't help but feel sorry for a squirrel that can have up to 4 or 5 of these things living in its skin. This year for the first time, the week before the hurricane, I saw a squirrel at the Window afflicted with warbles, but these lumps were different - they were very large and at the top where the skin was stretched tight, there were big black objects emerging from the hole. It was somewhat gag-inducing. Parasitism is a brilliant strategy in the larger scheme of things; many creatures include a stint of taking advantage of another organism's body for completing a successful life cycle, but up close, these relationships can be disturbing. This small mammal, hosting enormous lumps in its skin - happy home to five huge insect larvae getting close to leaving - looked miserable, with its skin scratched raw around each lump. I went and looked up botfly - don't do this unless you have a strong stomach. About three days later I saw the same squirrel at the Window and he was free of his burden - no more lumps and the scratched areas were already healing. Nature is truly amazing - there is always something surprising to learn.

**Wildflowers** Enough with the creepy, back to the sublime: we have had a spectacular wildflower showing that is still going on. There have been several waves of expansive color - early in October the goldenrod, *Agalinis*, and blazing star

turned the fields and forest edges gold and purple. We thoroughly enjoyed the wildflower walk led by Guy Anglin on October 6<sup>th</sup> - he taught us all about the diverse early successional stage wildflowers currently populating Birdsong's oldfields and woods. We were afraid that perhaps the wild winds of the hurricane might just flatten our flowering plants and end the wildflower season, but the day after the storm they were standing tall and have continued to bloom. We are now in a different stage of flowering dominated by brilliant swaths of bright-gold narrow leaved sunflower and purple mist-flower. The bloom is still beautiful and promises to be showy for another week or so at least, so we hope you get to come out and enjoy it as much as we have.

**Bird Window** We have only been open for a few days, so the following sightings refer to birds seen before the October 10<sup>th</sup> storm, and include some nice migrant sightings. It will be interesting to see who will show up now - you can help us by listing what you see at the Bird Window on our daily sightings log. September and early October sightings included:

Ruby-throated Hummingbirds (none listed after September 19<sup>th</sup>; usually they leave around October 17<sup>th</sup>), Hermit Thrush, Veery, Wood Thrush, Acadian Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, White-breasted Nuthatch, pair of Red-breasted Nuthatches, Downy Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Indigo Bunting, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Ground Doves, Grey Catbird, Summer Tanager, Scarlet Tanager, White-throated Sparrow, Yellow-throated Vireo, Common Yellowthroat, Blue-winged Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Northern Parula, Tennessee Warbler, Pine Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, and Ovenbird!

Please do come out to visit and enjoy this lovely cool weather and beautiful wildflower display. Please use common sense when you are out walking - Alan and Stewart are trying to clear trees from the trails as soon as they can, but it is time consuming and there are still a lot of trees to get to, so you may need to detour around such places off-trail; just watch your feet. Please do not walk under any leaning or fallen trees or pull down on anything overhead. Fallen trees or limbs can settle and shift, so please have your own safety in mind as you hike the property.

We know it is hard to see all the once-tall trees fallen, but we were incredibly fortunate here - it could have been a lot worse. We send our sincere best wishes and love to all who are still dealing with the aftermath and wish them all the best in their recovery.

- KDB

**BIRDSONG NATURE CENTER WISHES TO THANK:**

***Our Very Special Program Leaders:***

Guy Anglin, for leading an excellent *Botany Walk* to teach us all about our gorgeous fall wildflowers!  
Sandra Sallee, for leading the *Take a Child Outside* program with support from Carolyn Cohen.  
Dave Almquist and his wife Justine, for the rescheduled *Bugs, Bugs, Bugs!* program

***Special Financial Gifts:***

Betsy and Tony Brown  
Mike Brezin

***Memorial Gifts***

Peter and Beth Candelario, in memory of Chuck Eason  
Cathy and Randy McMullen, in memory of Marie and Roy Strickland  
Patty Coulter, in memory of RoseMarie Brantley

***Special Thanks To:***

Our extraordinary volunteer construction team, for continuing their professional repairs to the historic Barn. Their work is beautiful, and we thank them all: Glen Berman, Buddy Holshouser, Mike Duggar, Steve Kunst and Mike Brezin. Thank you Mike Duggar for fixing the drinking fountain.

Winnie and Wolf Adolph, for their ongoing work at managing the Birdsong Gift Shop and having it stocked with interesting, whimsical, and beautiful items that we all enjoy.

Carolyn Cohen for the great Purple Martin book!

Bob Dunn and Wolf Adolph, for ID and photographic documentation of birds at the Bird Window; Bob Dunn for donating the beautiful coasters with his bird portraits on them for the gift shop.

Phil Gornicki, Bird Window volunteer, for helping visitors on Wednesdays and for his support on days we have a group visiting Birdsong.

Alan Strowd, special thanks for his accounting expertise and support on the Finance Committee, and for volunteering at the Bird Window.

Joe Peresich, for ongoing management of our Facebook page and website.

Tami Tomasello, for being our social media coordinator and managing our Twitter site so expertly.

Butterfly Garden volunteers Donna Legare, Bob Bearss, Beth Grant, Ann Morrow, Myles Black, Jan Blue, Yvonne Stinson, and Emily Zeider. Thanks to all for the keeping the Butterfly Garden beautiful!

**Birdsong Nature Center  
Board of Directors  
2017-2018**

**President** Joe Peresich  
**Treasurer** Bill Preston

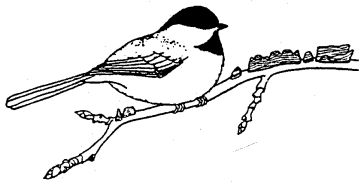
**Directors**

Jim Antista Margaret Tyson  
Woody Search Michael Brezin  
Ellery Sedgwick

**BIRDSONG'S CORPORATE SPONSORS**

Hopping, Green & Sams, PA  
Monrovia Growers of Georgia  
Native Nurseries  
Trillium Gardens  
Carroll and Company, CPA  
Import Authority  
South GA Low Cost Spay & Neuter Clinic  
Seminole Alterations  
Corporation Service Company





# Birdsong Nature Center

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date \_\_\_\_\_

New     Renewal

Credit Card     Check     Cash     Paypal

Credit Card Account #   

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Amount Authorized \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Authorization No. \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name (Please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone: Primary (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Alt (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Training, experience, interests: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about Birdsong? From a member of Birdsong, the news media, word of mouth, our newsletter, etc?

Please be specific: \_\_\_\_\_

### I would like to join the Friends of Birdsong in the following category:

- Individual Friend                      \$30      Bird Window and Nature Trails free during open hours.  
Two free one-time guest passes.  
Member discount on scheduled programs.  
10% discount on items at the Chickadee Corner Gift Shop.  
Bimonthly newsletter. Reciprocal general admission at participating nature centers nationwide (call for list).
- Family/Friends                              \$45      All of the above benefits for each member of the immediate household. Four free one-time guest passes.
- Friends of the Cardinal                      \$60      Five free one-time guest passes in addition to above.
- Friends of the Chickadee                      \$100     Six free one-time guest passes in addition to above.
- Business/Corporate Friend    \$100-\$1,000    One free one-time guest pass for each \$10 of membership (ie., 25 passes for \$250) and recognition in newsletter. Call for more information.
- Friends of the Hummingbird                  \$250     Hummingbird feeder in addition to above.
- Friends of the Bluebird                      \$500     Bluebird nesting box in addition to above.
- Birdsong Naturalist                          \$1,000    Personal tour of Birdsong with Executive Director and/or Board Chair for up to 6 people. Call for more information.

I do not wish to receive any (above) benefits with my membership and would like the whole amount tax deductible.

### I would like to support Birdsong by volunteering to help as follows:

- |   |  |                                      |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bird Window Instructor   | <input type="checkbox"/> Program Development                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial/legal guidance | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations                            | _____                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund raising             | <input type="checkbox"/> Serve on Board of Directors                 | _____                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greeter                  | (please submit resume)   | _____                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gift Shop Assistant      | <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching (birds, nature walks, stars, etc.) | _____                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Management          |  | _____                                |

Memberships are renewable one year after the sign-up date. Members can upgrade to a higher category membership by sending the balance within the year. Memberships are deductible in part, depending on the value of goods and services received. Please call for information. Receipts stating the value provided and the deductible amount will be sent to those joining at the \$100 or higher level.

# NEW FRIENDS OF BIRDSONG

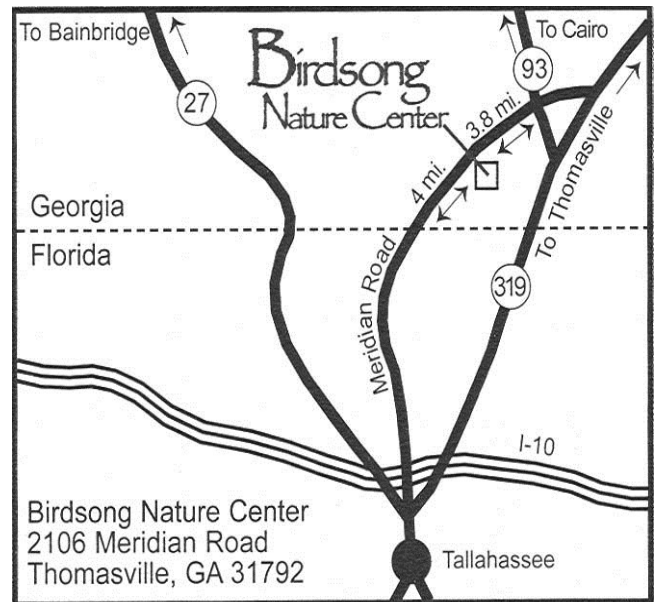
## **Tallahassee**

Curtis Watkins  
Jessie Harmsen  
Rachel Woodham  
Claudia Maggard  
Stephanie Cornais

## **Other**

Amanda Russo  
Scheff Wright  
Chris & Mary Beth Rudd  
Deborah Collins

Whigham, GA  
Quincy, FL  
Cairo, GA  
Ochlocknee, GA



## DIRECTIONS:

From Tallahassee: Meridian Road north, 4 miles past FL/ GA border (marked by a blue sign that reads Grady Co.), on right side of road. OR 319 north, turn left onto Rt. 93, then turn left onto Meridian Road, 3.8 miles on left side of road.

From Thomasville: 319 south, turn right at Marathon gas station onto Meridian Road, approximately 5 miles from Marathon or 3.8 miles from stop sign at Rt. 93, on left side of road.

Watch for small sign that reads "Birdsong".

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
TALLAHASSEE, FL  
Permit No. 660

Birdsong Nature Center  
2106 Meridian Road  
Thomasville, GA 31792  
Address Service Requested