

# Birdsong Nature Center

November - December 2017

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### November

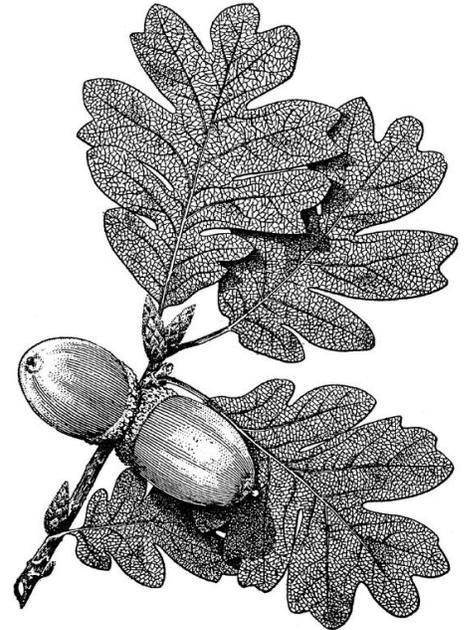
Thursday	Nov. 2	Butterfly Garden Work Day
Saturday	Nov. 4	Sunset/Moonrise Trail Ride
Saturday	Nov. 11	Raptors of the Red Hills
Saturday	Nov. 25	Thanksgiving Saturday Super Walk

### December

Saturday	Dec. 2	Take a Child Outside for the Holidays!
Thursday	Dec. 7	Butterfly Garden Work Day
Saturday	Dec. 16	Winter Solstice Celebration Annual Meeting of the Members
Saturday	Dec. 23	<b>Birdsong will be closed from December 23 through January 3</b>

### January

Wednesday	Jan. 3	<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,

It's been an interesting early autumn, and somewhat unusual given the heavy rains we've experienced of late and the nearby passage of Hurricane Irma. We had no structure damage at Birdsong due to Irma, though we did lose several trees out on the property. We're always particularly concerned for the Bird Window when severe weather approaches and we take precautions. Our trusty new volunteer construction crew was quick to the task of applying a protective covering to the Bird Window (thank you, guys!), and we breathed a sigh of relief at having it come through unharmed. The Listening Place – a screened pavilion overlooking Big Bay Swamp – our historic old barn, office and other buildings were all fine, as well.

During the better weather days we have very much enjoyed meeting all the great attendees of programs these past two months. Thank you to everyone who participated and to our wonderful program leaders for providing such fun educational offerings: David Almquist for "Bugs! Bugs! Bugs!" and the 40 children and adults who so expertly netted lots of bugs for Dave to discuss; our own Director, Kathleen Brady, for an "Early Morning Nature Experience" and the charming group of early risers; Marvin Collins for "Early Fall Birding" and the great birders and spotters who helped out; Sandra Sallee and Carolyn Cohen for "Take A Child Outside" and the special young guest who liked the molted black racer snake skin so much; Beth Grant for "Butterfly Gardening with Native Plants" and the charismatic group who attended the Sunday afternoon program. And special thanks to our awesome volunteers who so carefully tended Birdsong's Butterfly Garden, keeping it so healthy and vibrant. Birdsong could not be more fortunate than to have the great support of so many dedicated and generous volunteers. Thank you, all!

We will soon begin our annual fall campaign to raise much needed funds for the Nature Center. Birdsong is greatly dependent on the help of the generous donors who believe in and support the conservation and education mission of the Center, and we deeply appreciate everyone's help. We wouldn't be here, 31-years on, without special people like you! Please help us keep Birdsong thriving and available for another generation to come. Your help will be vital to that effort, and deeply appreciated by the many in our community who benefit from Birdsong in so many important ways.

Please visit the Center soon and enjoy the beautiful display of fall wildflowers; come see the healthy young long leaf pine trees emerging at the gopher tortoise restoration site. Bring friends to share Birdsong with, it's beautiful out there! We're always happy to see you, and always happy to hear of interesting things you encounter along the trails.

Warmest regards,

Joe Peresich

Board President

**Put on your calendar!  
Old Timey Plant Sale  
Third Saturday in March  
March 17, 2018**



## **HYDRANGEAS!**

Summer is over at last and Birdsong Old-Timey Plant Sale volunteers are reporting news of cuttings they took in spring. These young plants are now putting down roots and after winter in the greenhouse they will be ready for your garden in March.

It looks like we will have an interesting selection of hydrangeas this year -- some good old-fashioned varieties and some new and unusual ones. Cuttings were donated by gardeners in Jesup, Georgia and Quincy, Florida. For photos of these see Birdsong's website. Remember, our plant sale photos show the plants growing in local gardens and cared for by amateur gardeners. These are not touched-up photos of nursery-pampered plants.

Here are some of the hydrangeas we'll have at the March 17, 2018 sale.

1. "Rodie Blue" This is a classic old-timey mophead hydrangea. The donor gave it this name to honor her friend who gave it to her fifty years ago. Unlike many hydrangeas "Rodie Blue" blooms on old and new wood, so it can be cut down to any size or shape in winter without losing the next spring's blooms.
2. "Uncle Edgar". This is one of the plant sale's story plants. The original cutting of this hydrangea came from a floral display at the funeral of the donor's Uncle Edgar. The mophead flowers are a deep, rich, blue. This beloved hydrangea has been shared all over Tallahassee and Thomasville.

3. "Lady in Red" This is a modern Lacecap hydrangea developed at the University of Georgia by Michael Dirr. Flowers are blue and white and the stems and leaf veins are red.
4. "Blushing Bride" Another reliable modern hydrangea. Mophead flowers are white with a touch of pink.
5. "Ayesha" A most unusual mophead hydrangea with an interesting flower form. Each flower's petals (actually sepals) are slightly cupped, often with blue and pink mixed in the same flower head.
6. "Oakleaf" This is our native hydrangea. It is beautiful in every season. Panicles of white flowers in spring turn dusky rose through summer. Leaves change to shades of mahogany and purple in the fall, and the bush has a graceful winter silhouette, with peeling bark on its bare branches.
7. "Dooley Blue" The University of Georgia's famous football coach Vince Dooley is also a gardener. He grows this rich blue hydrangea in his Athens garden.

All these plants came from thoughtful donors who generously let us take cuttings. Do you have a reliable or interesting plant you'd like to share with Birdsong? Fall is a good time to start new plants from cuttings. Please let Birdsong know by phone or email if you would like to share plants.

- June White  
Plant Sale Chair

**SUNSET/MOONRISE TRAIL RIDE**  
**Saturday, November 4**  
**5:30 to 8:00PM**

This evening we have a special opportunity – there is a full moon tonight and it rises not long after the sun sets. We will take a trail ride through the woods at Birdsong and arrive at the entrance to the Gin House Field in time for the sunset at 6:47. Guests can then relax on the trailer or go for a short walk to enjoy the sights and sounds of twilight at Birdsong. Then we will ride out to the Star Pasture to await the rise of the full moon at 7:35 over the eastern horizon.

Bring a blanket, binoculars, and a flashlight. May require some waiting, some sitting still, and some being quiet, so this program is geared for adults. If we are fortunate enough to have a cloudless night, this may be an excellent photo opportunity. **RESERVATIONS, PLEASE.** Call or email by 4pm on Friday November 3<sup>rd</sup> to reserve your space on the trailer. We can accommodate 12 adults.

\$6 Friends, \$10 non-members, children half-price.

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

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's ecosystems, and what we can all do to help them. For adults and school-aged children.

\$5.00 Friends, \$8.00 non-members, children half-price. **RESERVATIONS, PLEASE.** Call (229) 377-4408 or email by Friday, November 10 at noon to reserve your space.



**THANKSGIVING SATURDAY SUPER WALK**  
**Saturday, November 25**  
**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. You will enjoy her observations and interesting additions to the route!

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

**TAKE A CHILD OUTSIDE  
For The Holidays!  
Saturday, December 2  
9:30-Noon**

Bring your favorite child to Birdsong and enjoy a morning in the woods with Sandra Sallee. Give your young person an alternative approach to holiday giving this year and let them collect their own natural materials to make a 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 gift 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, December 1st, so we know what materials to provide. Call (229)377-4408 or (800)953-2473 or email [birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org](mailto:birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org).

**ADOPT A BLUEBIRD BOX!  
Nest boxes available for adoption  
On Birdsong's Bluebird Trail**

Birdsong's 43-box Bluebird Trail has been in operation since before Birdsong incorporated in 1986. It has grown from a few scattered boxes to a formal trail with 23 boxes to the current 43 boxes. Adoptive "parents" can put a small plaque on their box in honor or memory of a loved one or pet or favorite author, etc. Our Bluebird Monitors maintain the boxes and prepare them for each nesting season, and visit the boxes throughout the nesting season to collect important information on the nesting activity going on in each box. Our boxes attract Brown-headed Nuthatches and Carolina Chickadees as well as Eastern Bluebirds. Your support for this effort really does make a difference to our local cavity-nesting birds by providing ideal cavities for nesting and improves the survival of broods fortunate enough to be raised in a box with a predator guard on it.

The initial adoption fee is \$50 for the first year and then \$35 for an annual renewal. Please call or email if you have any questions or wish to adopt a box.

**WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION  
Saturday, December 16, 2017  
\$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. (No food for sale)

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

*5:45pm* Welcome and lighting of the bonfire, accompanied by the didgeridoos and world music of Didjavu. 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 ground where we'll be sitting, and the bonfire, which won't have time to dry out before the event.

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 17 5:00pm**

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 2017-2018. The Nominating Committee will announce this year's slate on our web page by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Current members serving are President Joe Peresich, Treasurer Bill Preston, Secretary Margie McInnes, Woody Search, Brenda Coy, Jim Antista, Mike Brezin, Ellery Sedgwick and Joe Newborn. 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!

**BUTTERFLY GARDEN WORK DAYS**  
**Thursdays, November 2 and December 7**  
**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.

Our gardeners would very much appreciate the donation of bags of clean leaf mulch for the Garden. Please be sure that the mulch does not contain any stray invasive plants that might take hold. Hand raked or purchased leaf mulch is best! Thank you!

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

**TUNE IN ON WEDNESDAYS!**

*Backyard Birding*, sponsored by **Wild Birds Unlimited of Tallahassee**, is broadcast each Wednesday at 3:04pm on 88.9 WFSU-FM. Join host and co-owner Mary Huggins as she provides ideas, tips and information to help you enhance and create more bird activity in your back yard!



**Special Thank You Notes:**

**Miss Katharine Hsu** celebrated her 11th birthday recently. She loves Birdsong and took the opportunity of her birthday party to ask her friends to make a donation to Birdsong Nature Center in lieu of presents. Katharine raised \$50 for Birdsong. The hand-printed note accompanying her donation read: "Dear Birdsong, This is the money I raised at my birthday party. I really like to sit at the Bird Window. From Katharine." We offer our sincere thanks to Katharine and honor her leadership and generosity. With young people like Katharine, we know the world will be in good hands in the future.

**Mr. Bradley Gaupp**, Eagle Scout candidate, included Birdsong Nature Center as a beneficiary of his Eagle Scout project. Brad built and donated Screech Owl nesting boxes to Birdsong Nature Center and the parks of the City of Thomasville. We received 6 beautifully constructed owl boxes, ready to be installed out in the woods. We sincerely appreciate this special gift that will improve Screech Owl nesting habitat at Birdsong. Thank you, Brad.

**Our Volunteer Construction Crew: Mike Duggar, Buddy Holshouser, Glen Berman, and Mike Brezin** have transformed the old horse stall shed, until recently known as the "wavy shed" because of the peculiar sinking or shifting over time of the roof line. This is the shed where Trillium Gardens sets up at the Old Timey Plant Sale. Our crew figured out all the necessary engineering, equipment, supplies, etc., and came out and leveled out the entire roof. Now it has become a more useable space – we can actually walk inside the shed without fear of self-injury - and it looks really good. Thank you, all, for the expert roof repair and for greatly improving the appearance of the shed and the entire lot!

## WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT NOTES

October 13, 2017

**Weather** What else can happen? After several hurricanes, ongoing heat and humidity, rainstorms, and a period of near-drought, we are exhausted and waiting for fall to arrive. This is weather fatigue. We have recorded 5.76 inches of rain since September 1<sup>st</sup>.

When Hurricane Irma came through we were extremely fortunate that Birdsong did not sustain any damage to any of its buildings, but we did lose a number of nice old trees, old friends, so that was hard. Alan had his work cut out for him and has been using his new high-powered chainsaw to clear good-sized trees off the trails. It could have been a lot worse.

**Wildflowers** The wildflower bloom is upon us. Our fields are alive with color. We are really pleased with the timing because this weekend Guy Anglin will be here to lead a botany walk and we will get to learn all about our fall flowering plants and grasses.

It is quite a year for goldenrod! The entire House Pasture is brilliant yellow, a sea of goldenrod, with lots of narrow-leaved sunflower and *Pityopsis* with patches of pink *Agalinis* here and there. You can see it from the back porch. The entire property is worth walking right now for all the flowers, but if you only have a little time to spend, you can immerse yourself in brilliant autumn color on the short loop south of the Barn around the west House Pasture. The interesting thing, and this is happening across the entire property, is that all this goldenrod is not very tall. It is about half the height our goldenrod is in a typical year. Last year there was less of it, but it was extremely tall. I would love to understand this better. Something to do with our burning and our weather, no doubt.

The Gin House Field is showing patches of gold here and there, with nice swaths of *Pityopsis* coming up, some *Agalinis*, and lots of pale Frost Aster. Lovely. Most impressive, however, are the grasses. They are stunning! Just in the last few weeks they have grown tall and produced seed heads and are filling the landscape. We are very pleased that there is a great abundance of several species of *Andropogon*, or broomsedge, across the entire field. It has not grown to full height yet, but is making a great showing. There are patches of lopsided Indian grass, one of my favorites, with its bronze, tilting seedheads and many other tall and showy grasses I do not know. It is well worth a walk down the middle trail in this field – on a blue sky day surrounded by gracefully waving grasses, you can feel the change of seasons on its way.

On the trail around the Farm Pond there is an abundance of blooming ivory boneset, tall and healthy, as well as narrow-leaved sunflower, meadow beauty, *Agalinis*, *Hyptis*, and *Ageratum*. The small island in the middle of the Upper Pond is overflowing with wildly exuberant *Bidens*, bright gold, in a sea of spatterdock lily pads. In the Farm Pond, the solitary Pied-billed Grebe has arrived, just in the last day or so. One of these charming little birds

spends the fall with us in the Farm Pond every year, often alone, sometimes joined by another Grebe and one year by a Coot. That was an odd couple. The Farm Pond has some lovely expanses of blooming *Utricularia*, pale lavender, a beautiful color.

When I drove out to check the place in order to write these notes, I was dreading going over to the west side of the property, afraid to see a huge infestation of *Crotalaria*, or rattlebox. It has really taken hold on the roadsides and beautiful properties and plantations in north Florida and south Georgia. It is a big legume and produces tall lemon-yellow spires of beautiful flowers. It is profoundly invasive and for decades, we have worked hard at Birdsong to remove as much of this invasive as possible, mostly by hand. It used to be one of Betty Komarek's pet land management peeves. She would have all of us yanking up *Crotalaria* at the drop of a hat. Over the last 6 years, we have been aided by the Candelario and Abritton families, our homeschool group from Valdosta, in this highly focused effort. In the past year or two, many of these young people have been growing up and going away to college and our *Crotalaria* Control Force has diminished in size if not intensity of purpose! We haven't had a good *Crotalaria* pulling for a while. So it was with some trepidation that I went to see the status of things on the west wing, the place on Birdsong where it first showed up. There was some *Crotalaria* there, and a lot in a couple of places, but it was not as bad as I feared. Nevertheless, we are going to have to take steps. We may email you about a spontaneous *Crotalaria* Pull some day soon. If you have any pent-up anger and frustration (who doesn't these days) and need to take it out on something, *Crotalaria*-yanking is a beneficial use of that energy. I will join you.

**Land Management** I am very pleased to let you know that our burning of last spring and early summer has proved to be very effective. Within a short time after those burns, we got lots of rain and there was amazing growth and thriving of vegetation here at Birdsong. Everything went wildly green and lush. In some places, as hot as we did burn, you could barely tell a fire had been through there. Now however, if you walk down the trail east of the Barn and down toward the Azalea Garden and the drain, you can see that our burn really did kill some heavy brush. There are still a lot of dead stems standing, but now the forest floor is more open and there are actually wildflowers blooming well into the woods. It is a lovely sight. There is an abundant white *Ageratum*, narrow-leaved sunflower, goldenrod, *Liatris* and other wildflowers I do not know.

If you walk the trail to the Listening Place, there is a world of goldenrod along both sides of the trail, right in front of the Listening Place there is a profusion of *Pityopsis* in bloom, and on toward the west along the north bank there is *Liatris* at levels we have never seen there before. Again, well worth a short walk. This area too got burned nice and hot, so we are very pleased with the results.

Across the swamp, the longleaf planting site that we still call Big Bay Field got a nice hot burn too, early in the year, and right now it looks like a cloud – dog fennel is in full bloom. If you go up the trail toward the big shortleaf snag near Larry and JoAnn’s bench you will be delighted with the profusion of *Liatris* and *Agalinis* there. It is wonderful! You will be surrounded by pink and purple!

We do not have any plans at the moment for burning in the next few months but if an opportunity arises we will send out an email to the members. We do want to get a few good hot burns in this winter and then hit it hard in spring and early summer. If you are interested in this kind of work, please let us know before the end of the year.

**The Bird Window** Things have been very interesting at Birdsong these last two months. It is always interesting, any day of the year, but we always love it when migrants start to appear. They can often be a challenge to identify, which is of course great fun, since we don’t see them regularly like we do the year-round residents.

Here is a list of migrants or visiting birds that our volunteers and guests have recorded since August 11, 2017: Black-and-white Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Northern Parula, Pine Warbler, Hooded Warbler, American Redstart, Summer Tanager male and female, Scarlet Tanager female, Hermit Thrush, Veery, Swainson’s Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Yellow-throated Vireo, White-eyed Vireo, Gray Catbirds, Rose-breasted Grosbeak female, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe. These have been appearing off and on, along with our regulars...

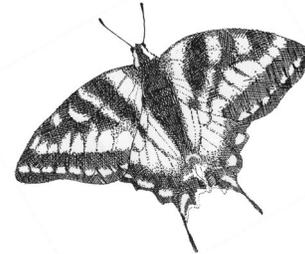
The Ruby-throated Hummingbirds have certainly made their presence known, all the way up till yesterday. We are interested in recording the final sighting of the year because when cofounder Betty Komarek was keeping her careful records all those years ago, the Ruby-throateds were consistently last seen on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October every year for many years. This precision has not held for a long time now, but it would be nice to have them here one final day, on Betty’s day, to tell them goodbye and wish them safe passage. So far today they have not been seen.

We recommend coming out to enjoy this activity soon because, as the fall days go by, migration wanes and we begin to experience the annual phenomenon of a very quiet Bird Window in November and December. This time of year there is such a great abundance of wild food available for our birds that they don’t seem to need us much at all, and they are all out eating the berries, grass seeds, fruit, and nuts that nature provides in harvest time. We appreciate your support in keeping our daily log of bird sightings, so please come enjoy the Window and add your sightings to our list. We’ll enjoy these special birds as they grace us with their presence on their way to another part of the world and another stage of their intriguing lives.

We are looking forward to the Winter Solstice Celebration in December and hope you can join us for that

special event. It may not take place on the exact day of the solstice, but we get as close as we can. Help us celebrate this significant celestial milestone – a new year is upon us, may it be better than the last.

- KDB



### BUTTERFLIES

Here is a list of butterflies identified by Dean and Sally Jue on a recent walk at Birdsong:

<b>COMMON NAME</b>	<b>9/20/2017</b>
Pipevine Swallowtail	3
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail	3
Spicebush Swallowtail	6
Cloudless Sulphur	25
Little Yellow	21
Sleepy Orange	1
Great Purple Hairstreak	1
Red-banded Hairstreak	2
Gulf Fritillary	6
Zebra Heliconian	11
Pearl Crescent	3
Common Buckeye	13
Viceroy	1
Carolina Satyr	7
Long-tailed Skipper	10
Southern Cloudywing	1
Horace's Duskywing	1
Clouded Skipper	2
Whirlabout	4
Northern Broken-Dash	1
Zabulon Skipper	1
Twin-spot Skipper	1
Ocola Skipper	2
<b>Total Species</b>	<b>23</b>

**BIRDSONG NATURE CENTER WISHES TO THANK:**

***Our Very Special Program Leaders***

Dave, Lukas and Justine Almquist, for the excellent *Bugs, Bugs, Bugs!* program  
Beth Grant, for her *Butterfly Gardening with Native Plants* program  
Marvin Collins, for leading *Early Fall Birding at Birdsong*  
Sandra Sallee, for leading *Take A Child Outside!*, assisted by Carolyn Cohen  
Guy Anglin, for his *Fall Botany Walk*

***Special Financial Gifts***

Bruce Ritchey and Sue Ellen Smith, a gift in memory of Dr. Marcos Barrera.  
Margaret Bracey, a gift in memory of John Reid Contia.  
Katherine Hsu, for raising funds for Birdsong at her 11th birthday party.

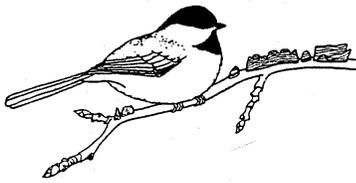
***Special Thanks To:***

Winnie and Wolf Adolph, for managing the Birdsong gift shop so beautifully and helping take care of the Bird Window and obtaining bird ID confirmations. Thank you too for making the suet cake balls that Henry the Red-bellied Woodpecker and all the other birds love so much! Winnie is busy ordering new stock for the shop for the holidays, so stay tuned!  
Bob Dunn and Wolf Adolph, for ongoing documentation of our bird visitors at the Bird Window  
Phil Gornicki, our new Bird Window volunteer, for helping visitors on Wednesdays and for his support on days we have a group visiting Birdsong.  
Carolyn Cohen, for another gift of yet more wonderful nature-related books!  
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.  
Birdsong's Board of Directors, Joe Peresich, Bill Preston, Margie McInnes, Woody Search, Brenda Coy, Jim Antista, Ellery Sedgwick, Joe Newborn and Mike Brezin for their commitment and hard work.  
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, Connie Lechnar, George McEntire, Phyllis Hiers, Ann Smith and Emily Zeider. Thanks to all for the keeping the Butterfly Garden beautiful!  
Sally and Dean Jue, for their list of Birdsong Butterflies.



<b>Birdsong Nature Center Board of Directors 2016-2017</b>	
<b>President</b>	Joe Peresich
<b>Secretary</b>	Margie McInnes
<b>Treasurer</b>	Bill Preston
<b>Directors</b>	
Jim Antista	Brenda Coy
Woody Search	Joe Newborn
Ellery Sedgwick	Michael Brezin

<b>BIRDSONG'S CORPORATE SPONSORS</b>
Hopping, Green & Sams, PA Monrovia Growers of Georgia Native Nurseries O'Toole's Herb Farm Trillium Gardens Barrett, Fasig & Brooks Carroll and Company, CPA Import Authority South GA Low Cost Spay & Neuter Clinic



# 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.

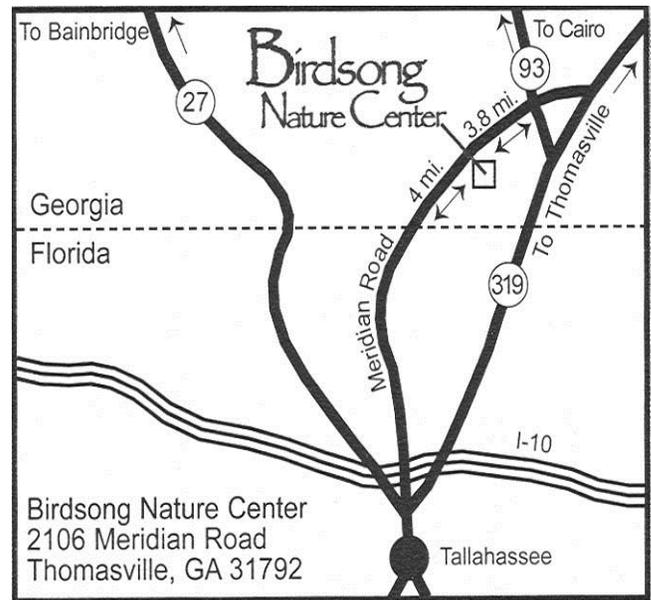
# NEW FRIENDS OF BIRDSONG

## **Tallahassee**

Noah Valenstein  
Scott Montague  
Jake Hartung

## **Other**

Carol Poulson



### 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