

Birdsong Nature Center

July - August 2019

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

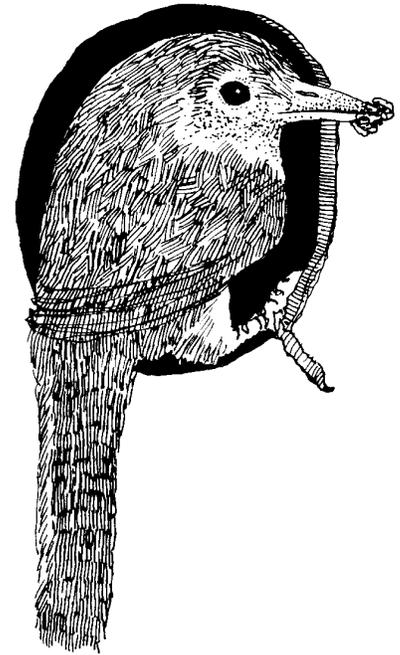
July

Wed.	July 3	Bluebird Trail Monitoring
Thurs.	July 4	Independence Day - CLOSED
Sat.	July 6	Butterfly Walk with NABA Hairstreak Chapter
Wed.	July 17	Bluebird Trail Monitoring
Sat.	July 20	Bluebird Trail Monitoring Summer Birding Tour
Sat.	July 27	Bluebird Trail Monitoring Early Morning Nature Experience
Wed.	July 31	Bluebird Trail Monitoring

August

Thur.	Aug. 1	Butterfly Garden Work Day
Sat.	Aug. 3	Take a Child Outside for a Natural Scavenger Hunt
Sat.	Aug. 10	Bluebird Trail Monitoring Evening Pond Tour
Wed.	Aug. 14	Bluebird Trail Monitoring
Fri.	Aug. 16	Birdsong will be closed from August 16 through September 4

Sept.



BIRDSONG NATURE CENTER

WEB SITE: www.birdsongnaturecenter.org

EMAIL: 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, Birdsong Office

Fax line (229)-377-8723, or birdsong@birdsongnaturecenter.org

Dear Friends,

We owe some very special thanks to the talent behind three recent unique events at Birdsong and to the participants who attended:

- **A Starry Night at Birdsong in Celebration of Earth Day**, April 27. Sincere thanks go to the Sparrow Sisters and their ethereal music: Donna Klein, Susan Smith, and Erice Shepard, who opened the evening's festivities with a set of beautiful Earth and Cosmos-related songs that ranged from witty to deeply moving. What beautiful voices! We also thank Bradley White and his colleagues with the Percussion Association. These amazing musicians ushered in one of our most spectacular bonfires to date with their haunting didgeridoo music, percussion and song; and helped us all enjoy the evening as the flames (finally) died down. Thank you to all participants who made the evening special and accompanied us out to the Star Pasture to enjoy the night sky together. Thank you too to the never-before-seen numbers of fireflies glimmering out in the woods around the Star Pasture, for absolutely fascinating us all.

- **Illuminating Site: Birdsong Window Gardens**, May 4. Thank you, Josephine Garibaldi and Paul Zmolak, of Callous Physical Theatre, for providing one of Birdsong's most enchanting experiences in memory. Jo and Paul designed and choreographed an art and performance installation featuring over 200 personally handcrafted lanterns made using pressed local flowers and images of local wildlife inspired by the flora and fauna of Birdsong. These lanterns, lit from within, were integrated into the Birdsong gardens where a dance performance took place, and the audience could move freely among and around the dancers. The performances moved from one special corner of the gardens to another as it grew dark. Thank you to the dancers: Bridget Close, Aaron Ellis, Calypso Haddad, and Aigars Larionova, for their captivating performances. It was indeed a rare opportunity to experience and see the Birdsong Bird Window gardens in a different light. The audience was intrigued, delighted and very moved. We thank Jo and Paul and the dancers for an extraordinary evening at Birdsong. We are also thankful because the rain that threatened all afternoon and evening waited until the performance was complete and allowed us to get all of the lanterns inside under shelter before raining at last.

- **Volunteer Celebration** May 11. Thank you, all Birdsong Volunteers! This was an evening to celebrate our many-faceted, multi-talented and extraordinarily generous Birdsong volunteers and to give everyone an opportunity to meet, have a nice dinner together and get to know each other better. Often our volunteers come out and support Birdsong in a certain capacity, but do not get to meet others from different specialties. On this evening we had volunteers from the Plant Sale, Burn Crew, WILD Women, Board of Directors, Program Leaders, Butterfly Garden and more! We shared a lovely potluck dinner, with volunteers bringing their own special dishes to share, and with a main dish cooked by Alan Parker, our Land Management Assistant. Volunteers got to explain their main volunteer role to the group and what they find most rewarding about it. We then went off for a tour of the property and to see the recent burns. It was an extraordinary evening, featuring one of Birdsong's most precious and beloved assets: You! Our volunteers! Thank you for all you do!

We hope you can join us for some of the programs listed in this calendar – several include trailer rides to various special locations on Birdsong. The rides are designed to give you and your friends and family an opportunity to explore different sites around the property while on a trail ride, to make dealing with our summer heat a little easier.

Best wishes, and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Kathleen Brady, Executive Director



NEW AND IMPROVED OLD-TIMEY PLANT SALE!

Every year we try to have something new at the Plant Sale to keep our volunteer workers and plant shoppers alert, interested, and inspired. We started serving Snow Cones in 2018, and in 2019 we had our tiny and extremely cute "House Plant House."

This year's improvement is not delicious or adorable but we are very excited about it: We have devised a whole new and improved method for displaying our hundreds of plant identification signs. We will be replacing the rickety and aggravating stake and coat hanger contraptions with professional looking wire frames, black corrugated plastic panels, and matching black clips. These will be so much easier to install and to store, and will make the whole sale area look better. No more wobbly and teetering signs coming loose from cheap clothespins! The new signs will be especially welcomed by our hard working and beloved volunteers who spent hours every year driving the old wooden stakes into hard ground.

We are making the new signs out of recycled plastic political and event signs, cutting them to size and painting them black to cover the original image and lettering. If you have any of these old signs please bring them to Birdsong. We have completed about 300 and we'd like to have about 300 more. We can usually get four of our signs out of one big sign. We also need the wire frames that support the signs. We will have to purchase these, so a money donation would be welcome.

We appreciate all kinds of support of the Plant Sale, whether you work as a volunteer, come to the sale (third Saturday in March) as a shopper, or donate supplies or money. Thank you!

- June White
Plant Sale Chair

BUTTERFLY WALK
With the NABA Hairstreak Chapter
July 6

Please join the local chapter of the North American Butterfly Association on a Butterfly Walk at Birdsong. Very knowledgeable people will be in attendance – you will learn a lot! See the Hairstreak Chapter website for more information:

<https://www.naba-hairstreak.com>

\$5 non-member adults, \$2.50 non-member children; free for Birdsong members.

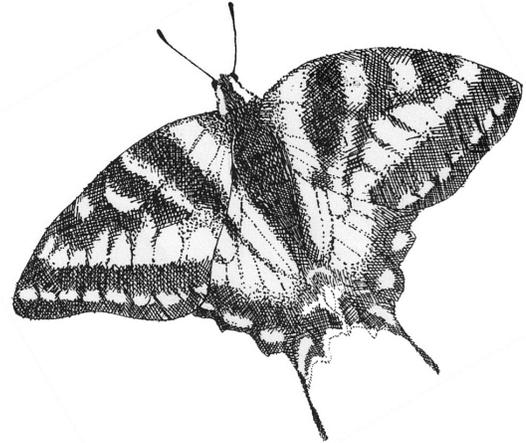


EARLY MORNING NATURE EXPERIENCE
Saturday, July 27
7:30 – 9:30AM

Birdsong is a lovely place to be in the early morning. Join Executive Director Kathleen Brady for a ride through Birdsong's fields and woods along with several stops for some easy-paced walks through even more variety of wildlife habitat. We will discuss the current nesting season, gopher tortoises, our ongoing land management and look for whatever birds, wildflowers and animal sign Birdsong may have to offer on a July morning. Bring sun protection, binoculars and wear waterproof shoes and long pants; we may go off trail. We will visit the Bird Window and Butterfly Garden upon our return.

Please call/email for RESERVATIONS by noon on Friday, July 26th.

\$6 Friends, \$10 nonmembers, children half-price.



SUMMER BIRDING TOUR
Saturday, July 20
8:30 – 12:00AM

Let's go for a combination trail ride tour and birding expedition at Birdsong. It may be hot, but this is a wonderful time of year to see and hear birds in the throes of ongoing courtship behavior, nesting, and feeding offspring! Join Expert birder Marvin Collins and Executive Director Kathleen Brady for a guided ride to a series of destinations where we will stop and hike off-trail to search for courting and nesting songbirds. We'll go to a variety of locations: the Farm Pond, the Live Oak Hammock, the area south of the planted longleaf site around Big Bay Pond, the woods west of the Frog Pond, and the east line firelane, and possibly others, depending how far we get. We'll wrap up with a visit to the Bird Window.

Dress for the weather, bring sun protection and prepare for a walk in the woods. Bring binoculars and field guides. There will be water available on the ride. Bring a picnic if you want to stay after the program.

RESERVATIONS, PLEASE. Call or email by Friday, July 19th to reserve your space on the trailer.

\$6 Friends, \$10 nonmembers, children half-price.

**TAKE A CHILD OUTSIDE
FOR A NATURAL SCAVENGER HUNT!
Saturday, August 3
9:30-11:30AM**

Celebrate summer at Birdsong with your favorite child or children. Leader Sandra Sallee will take our group on a scavenger hunt and see what Mother Nature has to offer! We want to give you and your youngsters an opportunity to really practice your nature observation skills – as a team. We will provide bags for collecting your treasures.

Be prepared to walk off the beaten path; closed-toed shoes and long pants are a good idea. We will go collecting and come back to the Barn to sort our loot and show it to our new friends. Bring water, sun protection, and lunch if you want to stay and picnic afterward. Enjoy learning something new and have a special experience with your child in the great outdoors.

RESERVATIONS, PLEASE, so we know how many to prepare for. Please contact us by Friday, August 2nd at noon.

\$4 Friends, \$6 nonmembers, children half-price. Includes a handout and resource list for year-round outdoor activities with children.

**THANK YOU,
HANDS ON THOMAS COUNTY!**

We offer our sincerest thanks to Angela Kiminas, Executive Director of Hands-On Thomas County, and leader Ali Harvey, Program and Events Director, and their fantastic team of leaders for bringing an amazing group of 32 young volunteers to Birdsong Nature Center for a Project IMPACT summer workday on June 13th. These hard-working children contributed their time and energy to several efforts: cleaning up Birdsong's Bird Window garden, the cactus garden, and other parts of the House Gardens. This was not a project for the faint of heart, especially in the dead of summer and working around all those prickly plants. These kids were generous, smart, funny, and willing to do what it took to complete these hot, dirty, leafy jobs. We were very impressed and you will be too when you see the Bird Window – all gravel and moss weeded, all dead palm fronds removed - and it looks beautiful. The birds are loving it! The rest of the garden looks refreshed and tidy; this group was just what was needed. Thank you!

We at Birdsong feel extremely fortunate to be included in HOTC's mission of promoting volunteerism, education, a strong work ethic, teamwork and camaraderie, and community support for one other. Words fail to adequately express our appreciation for this outstanding community asset. Thank you, Project IMPACT volunteers, Angela, Ali, and their team!

**EVENING POND TOUR
Saturday, August 10
7:30 – 9:00pm**

Bring your friends and let's go for a trail ride at Birdsong in the early evening and visit several of Birdsong's ponds. We'll head east and see what is happening at the Spring Pond, then ride over to the Gopher Tortoise area where we'll park and walk to the Frog Pond. We'll look for any signs of summer wildlife and listen for early evening owl activity and frog calls, and try to remember some of the frog songs that Nancy Thomas taught us.

Next we'll visit Big Bay Pond, cross the dam at Big Bay Swamp, and wrap up at the Upper Pond where we'll park and walk around the Farm Pond.

Bring your binoculars and dress for the weather; it will be hot. You are welcome to bring any beverages of your choice; we'll have water on the truck. Geared for adults and mature children; we may be stopping to hold still and listen for extended periods of time. If it is dark enough when we wrap up, we'll look for the emerging stars of the summer constellations.

\$6 Friends, \$10 nonmembers, children half-price. **RESERVATIONS, PLEASE.** Call us or email by Friday, August 9th to reserve a space on the trailer.



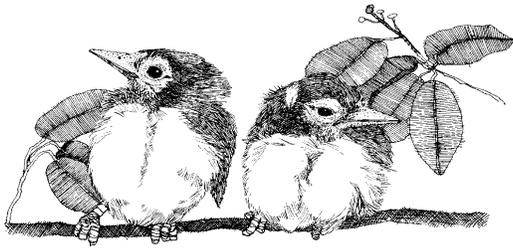
BLUEBIRD TRAIL MONITORING

July 3, 6, 17, 20 31

August 3, 14

8:30AM

The Bluebird Monitoring season is in full swing! Our Bluebirds are actively courting, nesting, and fledging babies, and Carolina Chickadees and Brown-headed Nuthatches are wrapping up their second broods. Our Bluebird Trail team checks nest boxes **every other Wednesday and Saturday**. Join our veteran Bluebird volunteers, Bob Bearss, Myles Black, and David Jones, for a fascinating morning in the field and learn all about Bluebirds! The job of visiting the 43 boxes, counting eggs and fledglings, recording observations, and cleaning and repairing boxes is a very valuable service to the Bluebirds and to Birdsong. Bring a friend and help the Bluebird! Call for more information: (229)377-4408



WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT NOTES

June 12, 2019

Weather Summer is here, in all its intense glory. We made it through a searing drought and now the rains are finally bringing some relief. We went for weeks in May with only a few hundredths of an inch of rain here and there and then over three weeks until June 5th with no rain and temperatures near 100 and it showed: each day felt hotter and drier than the one before and our plant life and wildlife were suffering. The leaves on the wild azalea outside my office, largely in shade, were drooping more and more each day, matched by lots of other thirsty plants. We have a lot of beautyberry, both in the garden and scattered across Birdsong, and hardy as it is, it wilted. More on the martins later, but the heat took a great toll on some nearly-fledged babies. We know it is hot and dry when we see Bluebirds at the Bird Window and sure enough, they were there.

By June, after weeks of drought, the weather predictions said we'd get inches and inches of rain, 100% chance, but *no*, we didn't, not here. It all went south of us. This went on for days before any storms and appreciable rainfall finally arrived. It was so frustrating – it was raining nearby, but not here...day after day. Finally, the storms and heavy rain arrived. Within 24 hours the grass started turning green, and the plants and trees started lifting up their heads. Since June 10 we've recorded 3.17 inches of welcome rain with daily cloudy skies and cooler temperatures and now the gardens and woods look

BUTTERFLY GARDEN WORK DAY

Thursday, August 1

9:00AM to Noon

Birdsong's Butterfly Gardeners typically meet on the first Thursday of each month at 9am, but the first Thursday in July is Independence Day and our gardeners are going to take a break! They will be back on August 1st.

Please join this accomplished and active crew of volunteers 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.

beautiful and refreshed. What a relief! For us humans who are impacted strongly by weather, it has actually been fairly pleasant in the mornings with overcast afternoons and showers, so the dreadful tension and anxiety and hopeless yearning that many of us feel in a drought has at last dissipated and we can relax and stop empathizing and breathe more comfortably again. There is a lot more summer to come, and who knows what weather it will bring, but at least for now it is raining again.

Land Management After the last management report, we were able to continue our burning until the risky dry weather set in and permits were being denied. We were able to finish the burning we had planned for the year and beyond, so even though there are a few more small sections that could be done, we burned about 95% of all the land that needed treatment and went beyond our hoped-for goal of 80% for this season. If the weather becomes favorable we may go back and complete those small sections.

After the last newsletter, the weather started to get a little more humid and the vegetation greened up a lot. This made for somewhat patchy burning in several locations, but overall our last four or five sections burned very nicely and we are pleased. Our crew handled some difficult conditions and situations beautifully and deserve great credit for the outcome. We thank these special folks for their commitment and expertise: Sandra Sallee, Carolyn Cohen, Bill Carroll, Russ Barrett, Scott Ball,

Karen Berkley, Stanton Beazley, Margaret Tyson, and Alan Parker. Thank you, best-ever Burn Crew!

Things are greening up very fast and the place is lush and beautiful. In some areas where we burned really hot very early, the vegetation is coming back strong and you can only tell we burned by the tall dead stalks and char lines on the pine trees. Scorched leaves and needles have fallen. Our more recently burned areas like the Wildlife Woods, which had not been burned for too long are beginning to green up at ground level with tall scorched brush above. We are very interested in see what plants will emerge now that the taller brush has been burned and the sunlight can reach the ground, now well-fertilized with ash.

The more regularly burned sections like the Gin House Field, the Squirrel Woods and House Pasture look green and spacious, each still full of nice green bahia grass, but with their own types of additional groundcover and understory plants that are well established and, we hope, continuing to nudge bahia out. The Squirrel Woods had its annual Goat's Rue bloom, very nice, and there are many young longleaf emerging there. In the Gin House we are seeing Daisy Fleabane and this fall's *Agalinis* and broomsedge species coming up. Unfortunately here we are also seeing way-too-big swaths of briars and winged sumac – the burning did not deter them. There is an herbicide treatment in their future. We were very pleased to see many more white milkweed plants than usual in bloom along the trail in the two sections south of the house Pasture where we've burned hot and mowed the last two seasons. Another plant we had not seen for a while has re-emerged after a hot burn – Beard-tongue, *Penstemon australis*, near the edges of the Gopher Tortoise Neighborhood. Lovely to see them again! The drain east of Big Bay Swamp looks great, full of a variety of ferns, now opened up after two good burn years, and we are looking forward to next year's wild azalea bloom here. There have been more *Spiranthes* or Ladies' Tresses orchids along the trails and in the woods than ever before. Butterfly Pea, Rock Roses, Tread-softly, Blue Hearts, Twin Flower, and Wild Petunia are scattered throughout the woods. So, we are enjoying seeing the effects of our Burn Crew's hard, hot work, and we hope you will come out and admire it too!

A lot of interesting things happened on our burns and there are plenty of stories to tell you about animal sightings and experiences we had when burning, but not enough space in this newsletter. Just a couple for now: there was the snag that turned out to be home to seven flying squirrels who flung their small selves into the air in all directions when Alan and Carolyn were protecting their tree.

There was also the burn along the south edge of the Bay, a semi-circle where the fire backed into the bay and smoke blew straight at us the entire way around – there was supposed to be a south wind heading into the bay. We saw two cottonmouths, one heading straight away from the fire to safety across the grass road, and one that clearly wanted to go to the water, but was facing the line of fire and could not get through. He got escorted across the trail. After the

burn settled we started checking the line and found two dead cottonmouths, neither one burned, but dead. We think to go to the water, but was facing the line of fire and could not get through. He got escorted across the trail. After the they just really wanted to get to the water, but couldn't and were overcome by the smoke. It is very rare for us to see an animal killed when we burn. Of course there are snails, and some grasshoppers, and occasionally a frog and we feel badly about it every time. We sometimes see a rat rushing to safety, and this season we saw a rabbit wandering around after a burn. Scorpions and lizards go straight up the nearest tree. Just seeing a cottonmouth is rare any more, but to see four of them, and two killed in this way – this was a first. The crew and I felt terrible – our fire had clearly been the reason they weren't able to get where they needed to go, but for whatever reason, they didn't turn and go the other direction in time. Burning always offers us a lot to learn and think about.

Purple Martins It has been an unusual time at the martin pole this year. It has been hard to tell how many pairs are actually nesting, but now we are certain of at least eight gourds with babies in them. I've spent very little time this year observing our martins, and I really miss it, but it has saved me from getting too emotionally involved in their trials and tribulations with this harsh weather. As mentioned last time, we have really committed parents working hard this year, and we had a lot of babies leaning out of the gourds being fed and trying to get some relief from the heat as the drought progressed. It just got worse and worse. Those little birds were baking up there, with their little heads dangling down and eyes closed, desperate for relief. Once the weather prediction told us rain was coming we got our hopes up but last week after three days of no rain and 98 degrees, I found three babies dead under the pole. It was heart-breaking – they were in really good condition, fully feathered, long tails, zero bird lice. They couldn't take it any more and had bailed out, but couldn't fly. That did it. We had to do something. It was Friday and Alan was gone for the weekend and they needed immediate relief or we could lose more babies, so I parked the new truck very close (it has a tall cab) put a recycling bin on the roof for more elevation and put an oscillating sprinkler on top to help cool things off. I got it set so it could wet down every gourd with each pass, but from above and behind, so no small birds would be getting showered through their doorways. The path of the water was just right, every gourd got soaked each time. The parents went nuts. They circled and scolded and swooped and scolded some more. The spray made them too nervous to come all the way in to deliver an insect, so they kept aloft and circling for about a half an hour. After that they started getting used to the idea and figured out the path of the parallel water streams and started to enjoy the cooling spray. One pair figured out just where to sit on a crossbar so that when the spray rotated towards them, they were right in between the streams!

Other parents got used to the spray and began feeding as usual and they all started flying in and through the spray like they were bathing. All this was accompanied by loud and raucous chortling as only martins can do, and they really did seem to be enjoying themselves. By the end of the day, when I turned the sprinkler off to go home, no babies were hanging dejectedly out of the doorways – I want to think the water had cooled the gourds down and they could just relax at last in a cool gourd and fall asleep!

This primitive system worked well for a day or so and then it began to rain and the overall temperatures have not been up in the deadly range. As of today, that stop-gap sprinkler remedy has been replaced: Alan has installed an excellent new system, attaching an in-ground lawn irrigation pop-up sprinkler head to a hose at the top of the pole, and now there is a beautiful petunia-shaped fountain of spray and mist floating down upon all the gourds...the babies who have been thriving with the better weather and attentive parenting, are all enjoying a little mist, and the parents are busily feeding or taking breaks sitting on the crossbars in the column of light rain. Thank you, Alan!

Along with better weather this week, we are witnessing a new martin phenomenon – all of a sudden we have not only eight active gourds and pairs of adults, but suddenly we are counting up to 22 birds flying exuberantly around the pole each day, hanging out high up in the nearby pecan, and sitting shoulder to shoulder on the crossbars, loudly discussing things. There are definitely new young martins in this group, but we are not sure they belong to us – it just seems like too many birds. We think our martins may be receiving visitors from a nearby colony who are taking their young out and around the neighborhood. Whatever it may be, today is a joyful, noisy, friendly, happy day at the Birdsong martin pole! We've got lots of busy adults, and bright-eyed, fuzzy-feathered babies looking out their doors, with a couple looking ready to fly. We have a feeling that tomorrow may be First Flight for several of these stoic little birds!

Come on out and see them for yourself – historically, the martins fledge their young and then spend a couple of weeks teaching them to fly and feed themselves, and then they all gang up and get ready to leave – usually by the 4th of July. We are hoping for a happy, healthy cohort of babies, ready to take off for the coast and then make the long flight to Brasil. We'll keep you posted!

Sightings Northern Bobwhites have been making their presence known all around the property for the last several months. A number of people reported flushing coveys earlier in the season and now we are hearing the lilting “bobwhite” call wherever we go. At least three different males are coming in close to the house every day, calling along the way in from the Pecan Grove and House Pasture. We think they are coming to an old farm-related water fixture near the office – it started to leak and makes a small pool. We started to get it fixed a month or so ago, but it was going to involve a lot of work and we had other priorities. When the drought set in we decided to just let it be a watering hole for the wildlife.

The Bird Window has been a busy place for parents and young – the Red-bellied Woodpeckers (that wait for Mirhi to feed in the morning and hammer on the roof if they don't think she's getting things done fast enough) are bringing their offspring in to learn all about suet. We had two gorgeous male Indigo Buntings here recently enjoying the water, as well as several male Bluebirds. Northern Parulas are coming in to bathe and our two frogs are back, showing only their green faces and beautiful eyes. This year, instead of squeaking and leaping away when we approach they are just staying put, watching, seemingly very unconcerned. One of the most interesting recent sightings happened last Sunday when Bob Dunne, who takes gorgeous bird and wildlife portraits at the Window (you may have seen his bobcat and fox pictures on the porch) saw something moving out by the oak tree beyond the fence and it was a coyote. Bob got an extraordinary photo of its face, looking right at him, wild and beautiful. You never know what you will see at the Bird Window!

- KDB

LAND ADJOINING BIRDSONG FOR SALE

Longtime member and volunteer, Beth Grant, is offering for sale her 11.65 acres on Birdsong's southern border, not far from Big Bay Pond. It is at the back of Magnolia Hills Subdivision, which contains 5-acre lots, most with homes. Beth's two lots for sale together adjoin Birdsong, another plantation, the property of two other Birdsong members, and the dirt road Blueberry Loop. They are very secluded and completely wooded, including an ephemeral wetland that creates a creek feeding Birdsong's Big Bay Swamp. It's the little creek that goes under the trail east of the Live Oak Hammock.

Beth had long dreamed of owning land close to Birdsong, and has served as a protector of our nature center, as the previous owners allowed illegal hunting onto Birdsong. She has enjoyed about 15 years of camping on and exploring the land, but now needs to downsize and would like to pass it on to someone else who loves and wants to protect Birdsong. We would love to have someone like that for a neighbor.

Asking price is \$75,000, negotiable. Email bethgrant@bellsouth.net for a tour if you are seriously interested. The realtor is Sandra Shneidman, (229)379-1002.

BIRDSONG NATURE CENTER WISHES TO THANK:

Our Very Special Program Leaders:

Our WILD Women (and Gavin), for providing excellent outdoor field trip experiences for: the 5th grade students of Deerfield-Windsor School of Albany: Laurie Jones, Jane Storm, Carolyn Cohen, Sandra Sallee, Sharman Franklin, Gavin Franklin, and Teresa Adkins! WILD Women rule!

Lora Smith, for another fascinating learning experience, with an intimate look at the life and ecology of the Gopher Tortoise.

Special Financial Gifts:

Anonymous, for a generous and thoughtful gift to Birdsong
The Candelarios
Marylyn Feaver

Memorial Gifts:

Gift from the Tuesday and Thursday Watercolor Class at the Tallahassee Senior Center, in memory of Mrs. Dorothy Weitsman Abels Harris and in honor of her daughter, Susan Stratton.

In loving memory of Betty Jinright, from Dana Bryan, Irene and John Gleason, Donna Legare and Jody Walthall, Betty O'Toole and W. Wilson Baker and Kathleen Brady.

In memory of Leon Neel, from Betty O'Toole, W. Wilson Baker and Kathleen Brady.

Special Thanks To:

This season's fantastic burn crew: Sandra Sallee, Bill Carroll, Carolyn Cohen, Karen Berkley, Jan Blue, Russ Barrett, Scott Ball, Stanton Beazley, Teddy Spencer, Margaret Tyson and Alan Parker.

Our volunteer construction team, for their ongoing improvements of the historic Barn and work on Chuck's house. We now have useful and attractive working doors and stairs to the barn. Thank you Mike Duggar, for repairs to the pipes at the restroom. Our volunteers' work is beautiful, and we thank them all: Glen Berman, Buddy Holshouser, Mike Duggar, Steve Kunst and Mike Brezin. Thank you, Ellery Sedgwick, for the gift of lumber.

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. Thank you for making the suet cakes and taking good care of the birds!

Bob Dunn and Wolf Adolph, for ID and photographic documentation of birds at the Bird Window.

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

Victor Nunez, for the gift of interesting books and Peruvian items for the gift shop.

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, Mary Janik, Jan Blue, Jo Garibaldi, Yvonne Stinson, and Lina Eubanks. Thanks to all for the keeping the Butterfly Garden beautiful!

Bluebird Monitors: Myles Black, Bob Bearss, and David Jones, for regular monitoring and data collection in spite of this hot, dry weather!

**Birdsong Nature Center
Board of Directors
2018 - 2019**

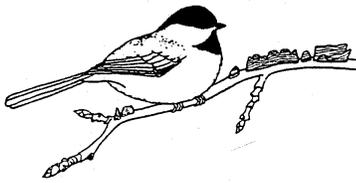
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Treasurer Bill Preston

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Jim Antista Margaret Tyson
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Ellery Sedgwick Scott Ball

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TNB Financial Services



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, | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Management | stars, etc.) | _____ |

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.

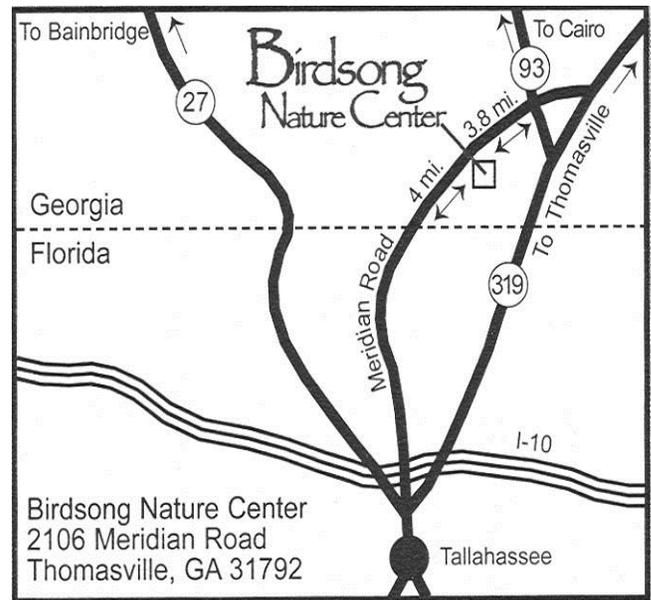
NEW FRIENDS OF BIRDSONG

Tallahassee

Janice Dodge
Linda and Roland Lee
Carla Peterson

Other

Christine Ambrose Metcalf, 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