

## BENEFITS

When you join Choctawhatchee Audubon, you also become a member of National Audubon and Florida Audubon. Membership benefits include:

- 6 issues of *Audubon* magazine each year.
- 4 issues of *Florida Naturalist* magazine each year.
- 4 issues of *Shorelines*, the Choctawhatchee Audubon Society newsletter, providing information on upcoming events, chapter activities, and local environmental issues.
- Terrific local programs for adults and kids including monthly programs and bird walks, twice a year migration counts, field trips to banding stations and other prime birding spots, annual Christmas Bird Count, and special community projects such as cleanups of local beaches, waterways & parks and bird surveys at local parks and developments to create species checklists.

The greatest benefit:

As a member you join forces with National Audubon Society's 550,000 members, scientists, lobbyists, activists, and Audubon Adventure students, in vital efforts to preserve our precious natural resources, and protect the birds, plants, animals, and people that inhabit our planet.

The mission of the National Audubon Society is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds and other wildlife for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity. The National Audubon Society is supported by 550,000 members in 518 chapters nationwide.

## REPRESENTATIVES

**President** ..... Gary Parsons  
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..... 863.4040

*All #'s are area code 850*

Choctawhatchee Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 1014  
Fort Walton Beach, Florida 32549  
www.choctawhatcheeaudubon.org



## Schedule of Events 2010-11

A Chapter of the  
National Audubon Society  
A Non-Profit,  
Volunteer Organization Serving  
Okaloosa and Walton Counties  
since 1976

Choctawhatchee Audubon Society  
is dedicated to the protection of  
bird and wildlife habitat,  
environmental education, and a  
greater appreciation of Northwest  
Florida's natural beauty.

[WWW.CHOCTAWHATCHEEAUDUBON.ORG](http://WWW.CHOCTAWHATCHEEAUDUBON.ORG)

## CONSERVATION

Our chapter acts on important local, state-wide, and national environmental issues by attending public hearings and writing letters to our elected and appointed officials. Our newsletter often contains a "Conservation Corner" alerting members on environmental issues. In addition, concerned citizens can join Audubon e-mail lists which recap environmental legislative action at state and national levels and provide suggestions for action.

## EDUCATION

To enhance environmental studies, our chapter has placed a copy of National Audubon's *Almanac of the Environment: The Ecology of Everyday Life* in the library of local middle and high schools. CAS has also created a traveling "Birding Box" which is available to local educators by request. The birding box contains binoculars, field guides, audio compact disks and classroom activity guides for all grade levels. Experienced birders can hand deliver the box and accompany students on birding trips by request. CAS also sponsors requesting fifth grade classes in Okaloosa and Walton counties for the Audubon Adventures Nature Study Program. The program addresses four different topics, each of which comes with a teacher's guide and certificate as well as 30 Audubon Adventures newsletters for the students. Families can also learn about the sights and sounds of nocturnal wildlife on monthly night walks called **EVENTURES**.

## RECREATION

CAS hosts and volunteers for many events including bird walks, field trips, bird counts and a spring chapter retreat. In addition, CAS members volunteer to monitor rooftop shorebird nesting sites, a burrowing owl colony on a range, assist in marine debris surveys, and sea turtle patrol on beaches. Some also assist in erosion control projects to protect important habitats for imperiled species on Eglin AFB. These special projects provide a chance to get outdoors, learn more, educate more and give back to wildlife.

## 2010/2011 PROGRAMS

All programs are free and open to the public on the first Thursday of the month from August to May at the NWF State College, Niceville, (NWFSC) in the Learning Resource Center, **LRC Room 128**. Socializing, refreshments and conservation topics begin at 6:30 PM prior to the featured speaker at 7 PM.

**August 5: "Red Cockaded Woodpecker (RCW) Ecology and Monitoring, Working to Recover an Endangered Species"** Kristina Witter, Wildlife Biologist, will tell us about an Eglin project to band RCW chicks then relocate them to suitable habitat in neighboring states. Volunteers needed!

**September 2: "Red Tide and Other Harmful Algal Blooms"** Dr Allison Beauregard, Chair of the Mattie Kelly Environmental Institute at NWFSC, will report on the occurrence of harmful algal blooms in Florida and on Ride Tide related research in Choctawhatchee Bay.

**October 7: "Issues Associated with Water Quality in Florida"** Linda Young of the Florida Clean Water Network will tell us what is happening to our aquifer, our streams and lakes and our bays and estuaries so we can ask our elected officials to make the right decisions for the people, wildlife and the environment.

**November 4: "Introduction and Photo Tour of the Unique Amphibian and Reptile Communities of Eglin Air Force Base"** Kelly Jones, Wildlife Biologists, will present an overview of local herptofauna with an emphasis on some of the rare species, including Flatwoods Salamanders of Eglin AFB.

**December 2: "Christmas Bird Count"** Donald Ware, CAS Count Coordinator, will get us ready for the annual CBC. Learn about the history of the CBC, the impact the count is having on understanding changes in bird populations and what birds we should look for.

**January 6: "Environmental Legislation Which May Come Before the Florida House in 2011"** Honorable Matt Gaetz, State Representative District 4, will speak on pending environmental legislation, his position on the legislation and his thinking.

**February 3: "Basic Bird Identification Techniques"** Lenny Fenimore will tell us how to get started identifying birds and is eminently qualified to lead us in the right direction.

**March 3: "My Six-Year Search for the Ivory-billed Woodpecker"** Jamie Hill, Ornithologist in association with the Cornell department of Ornithology and Auburn University will share his unique and fascinating story of searching the Choctawhatchee River for IBW's.

**April 7: "The Impact of Tropical Storms on Barrier Islands Pristine and Contaminated with Oil"** Rip Kirby, a Coastal Geologist from the University of South Florida, will report on his research on the changes in beach and dune structure on the Eglin reservation portion of Okaloosa Island.

**May 5: "Biology and Population Status of Endangered or Threatened Shorebirds, Sea Turtles and Beach Mice on Okaloosa Island"** Erica Laine, Wildlife Biologist and volunteer coordinator for Eglin's Jackson Guard will discuss the research on some of the rare wildlife on Okaloosa Island and how volunteers are used to help with the research.

## BIRD WALKS, FIELD TRIPS & EVENTS

Members and non-members of all levels of experience are invited to all **BW** (bird walks) and **FT** (fieldtrips). You are encouraged to wear long pants, a hat and bring binoculars, a bird book, and bug spray.

**8/21: BW** Navarre and Opal Beaches with Don Ware. Meet at Uptown Station FWB 7:30 AM .....862.6582

**9/6: Eventure** in Destin 6:30 PM. RSVP to Nonie Maines .....862.9588

**9/18:** North American Fall Migration Count Contact Don Ware to volunteer.....862.6582

**10/1: Eventure** in Mary Esther 6 PM. RSVP to Nonie Maines .....862.9588

**10/2: BW** Destin Pass Beach and Bay parks with Lenny Fenimore. Meet at Uptown Station 7:30 AM.....863.2039

**10/9: FT** Fall bird banding site in Fort Morgan, AL with Gary Parsons. Meet at Uptown Station at 7:30 AM or Navarre Butterfly House at 8 AM ..... 678-1461

**10/23: FT** Shoal River Sanctuary with Bob & Chris Larson. Meet at Food World, Niceville at 7:30 AM .....651.0392

**11/13: BW** South Walton Courthouse Annex with Dee Nickerson. Meet at Winn Dixie, BWB 7:30 AM or at Annex at 8 AM .....897.2035

**12/16:** Choctaw River Christmas Bird Count. Contact James Hill to volunteer 814.323.2001

**12/20:** Choctaw Bay Christmas Bird Count. Contact Don Ware to volunteer .....862.6582

**12/18:** CAS Member's Christmas Party

**1/15: FT** Ivory-billed Woodpecker Habitat with Don Ware. Meet at Badcock Furniture, Niceville 8 AM .....862.6582

**2/11-13:** CAS member's retreat, Cedar Key FL. Check website for details.

**3/4: Eventure** in Niceville 5:30 PM. RSVP to Nonie Maines .....862.9588

**3/5: BW** Niceville area with Gary Parsons. Meet at Badcock Furniture parking lot 7:30 AM .....678.1461

**3/26: FT** Fox Hill Property with Bob Reid & Betsy Clark. Meet at Food World, Niceville 7:30 AM and bring lunch .....678.1926

**4/1: Eventure** in Niceville 6:30 PM. RSVP to Nonie Maines .....862.9588

**4/2: BW** Bluewater Bay Marina with Tom and Robin Stiles. Meet at Winn Dixie, BWB 7:30 AM .....897.2823

**4/9: FT** Fall bird banding site in Fort Morgan, AL with Sylvia Cowen. Meet at Uptown Station at 7:30 or Navarre Butterfly House 8 AM .....862.1963

**4/30: BW** FWB spray fields and holding ponds with Don Ware. Meet at FWB Coach-N-Four restaurant, 7:30 AM.....862.6582

**5/6: Eventure** in South Walton, 7 PM. RSVP to Nonie .....862.9588

**5/7: FT** Dave Gordon's Wild World with Nelda Seever. Meet at DeFuniak Ext Office at 8 AM .....939.9681

**5/14:** North American Spring Migration Count. Call Don Ware to volunteer .....862.6582

## AUDUBON EVENTURES

### Attention Families, Scout Groups and all Wildlife Lovers!

Discover the sights and sounds of nature at night with AUDUBON *EVENTURES*. Nonie of Nonie's Ark Animal Encounters will be guiding Night Walks for Choctawhatchee Audubon Society on the **FIRST FRIDAY** of the month Sept, Oct, Nov, Mar, Apr & May. Programs will last approximately 1 1/2 hours and begin just before sunset. All are invited but the focus will be on ages 4 to 10. We will explore for elusive creatures such as fox, owls, frogs and even bats! COST \$1 per person; members and immediate family FREE!

## MEMBERSHIP SUBMISSION

### National Audubon Society/ Choctawhatchee Audubon Society Chapter Code C9ZE110Z

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

- New National Member Offer - \$20.00
- CAS Newsletter Only - \$10.00
- National Individual Renewal - \$35.00
- National Student/Senior - \$15.00

Send check payable to National Audubon Society P.O. Box 422250, Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250. With the exception of CAS newsletter only, check payable to Choctawhatchee Audubon Society to: P.O. Box 1014 FWB, FL 32549.