

NOV-DEC 2020

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Conservation Through Education

The Newsletter of the Clearwater Audubon Society Vol. 97

# Wing Beat

## Local Field Trips Available:

| NOV | CONTACT                          | DETAILS   |
|-----|----------------------------------|---|
| 7   | Madeleine Bohrer<br>727-748-6885 | Monthly Bird Walk at Moccasin Lake Nature Park Meet at 8:00am   |
| 14  | Cuneyt Yilmaz<br>727-657-0803    | Upper Tampa Bay Park<br>Meet at the park 8001 Double Branch Rd. by the education center at 8:30am. \$2 fee per car.                 |
| 28  | Bill Kaempfer<br>303-717-5063    | Lake Dan Nature Preserve<br>Another terrific new park for CAS. Meet at the park at 8:00am.<br>Come prepared there are NO Restrooms. |

| DEC | CONTACT                          | DETAILS   |
|-----|----------------------------------|---|
| 5   | Madeleine Bohrer<br>727-748-6885 | Monthly Bird Walk at Moccasin Lake Nature Park Meet at 8:00am |
| 12  | Dale Goebel<br>727-510-1462      | Fred Howard Park<br>Meet at shelter 9 at 8:00am.              |
| 26  | Paul Trunk<br>727-430-0368       | North County CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT<br>Want to help? Call Paul  |

Please note:

Moccasin lake will be closed to the public for: Thursday & Friday, Nov. 26 & 27 for Thanksgiving.

<http://clearwateraudubonsociety.org>

# EAGLE WATCH >> Report by Louise Roy, Eagle Watch Coordinator for CAS

## Pinellas Eagle Watch

We had a good year with a recorded 39 active Bald Eagle nests. There were seven nests that failed this year (Started to incubate and nest failed for unknown reason.). Twelve nests that were inactive (No eagles nested in them.), five eaglets perished in the nest (reason unknown), and 33 eaglets successfully fledged. We rescued two of the eaglets that were later released.

This photo is special because it is the eaglet from Sawgrass nest this year, now a full-fledged juvenile. When it fledged (Exited the nest.), it landed on the ground and sustained three fractures. He was rescued and transported to Busch Gardens. He was then transported to Audubon of Maitland for additional rehabilitation. This was my very first eagle release. Watching eagles is my passion. Volunteering as an eagle watch coordinator and reporting what is going on in the nest is fulfilling and so enjoyable.

Louise Roy



## Learn more about how to be a part of Eagle Watch:



**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020**

**4 PM EST – 5 PM EST**

EagleWatch: Monitoring and Protecting Florida's Bald Eagles

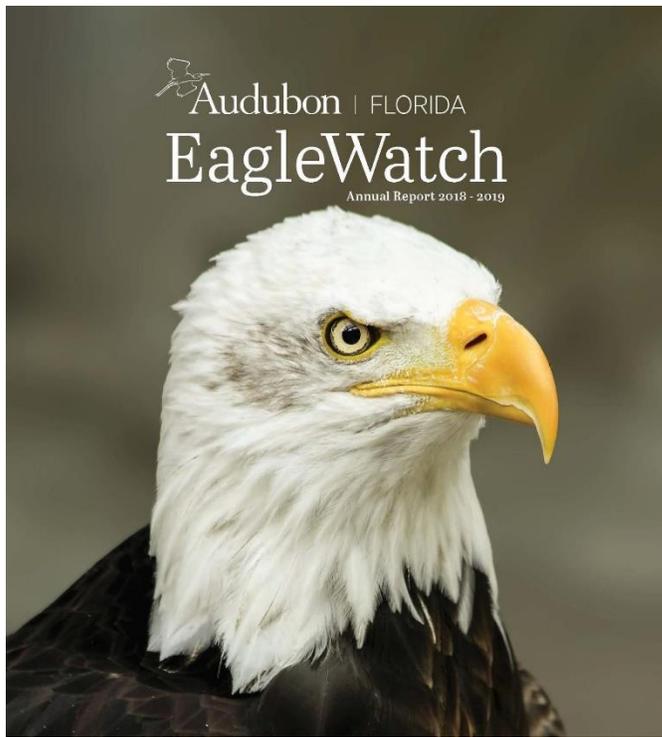
Online Event

Public · Hosted by Audubon Center for Birds of Prey and Audubon Florida

Online Event

<https://act.audubon.org/a/fl-cbop-eaglewatch-monitoring-and-protecting-floridas-bald-eagles>

Join Audubon Florida EagleWatch Program Manager Shawnlei Breeding as she highlights Florida's population of Bald Eagles, their adaptations for life in urban areas, and the role that community science plays in tracking and protecting Bald Eagles in Florida.



*Eagle Watch 2018-19 Report Cover*

## **EagleWatch**

Annual Report from the Center for Birds of Prey.



November 6, 2018

## **Freedom Flies: 600th Bald Eagle Makes Majestic Return to Florida Skies**

This summer, Audubon Center for Birds of Prey released its 600th rehabilitated Bald Eagle back into the Florida skies with the help of long-time Audubon supporters Dick and Mimi Ford. Audubon rescued the eagle in March after injuries likely sustained from a territory fight with another eagle.

## **Bald Eagle Facts**

Here are some other facts you may not know about our national symbol: As our national symbol, the bald eagle is linked to its 1782 landing on the Great Seal of the United States. Considered a sign of strength, the eagle was used by Roman legions as their standard.

Female bald eagles are larger than males by as much as 25 percent.

With populations on the rise since the 1970s, an estimated 1,500 nesting pairs now reside in Florida. Their habitats are forested areas near expanses of shallow fresh or salt water.

Nesting territories are concentrated around inland lakes and river systems and along the Gulf coast.

Eagle nests, called “aeries” are usually within two miles of water and are quite large, being built up in size by the returning owners year after year. **A record-sized nest in St. Petersburg, Florida was 9.5 feet in diameter and 20 feet tall.**

The bald eagle is a conservation success story. While no longer listed under the federal Endangered Species Act or state imperiled species rule, bald eagles remain protected by both state and federal law.

When near a bald eagle, please follow the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission [Eagle Watching Etiquette guidelines](#).

ANYTIME you notice ANY bird in need of rescue: Call Kim Begay, our VP of Conservation & Advocacy at 727.480.9010, [Birds in Helping Hands](#) or [The Raptor Center of Tampa Bay](#).

# YOUR CLEARWATER AUDUBON SOCIETY BOARD

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

John Hood  
Lynn Sumerson  
Dale Goebel  
Méichelle Long  
Cuneyt Yilmaz

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Vice President/ Conservation:  
Kim Begay  
  
Treasurer: Madeleine Bohrer  
  
Secretary: Stephanie Hall

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Conservation Projects: Dana Kerstein  
Education/Outreach: Lynn Sumerson  
Field Trips: Dale Goebel  
Media: Position Available  
Membership: Cuneyt Yilmaz  
Newsletter & Webmaster:  
Méichelle Long  
Programs: Position Available  
Wild Raptor Sanctuary:  
Stephanie Anderson

## BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE:

Mardy Hornsby  
Lindsey Day  
IP President: John Hood

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Christmas Bird Count:  
Paul Trunk & Ron Smith  
  
Eagle Watch: Louise Roy



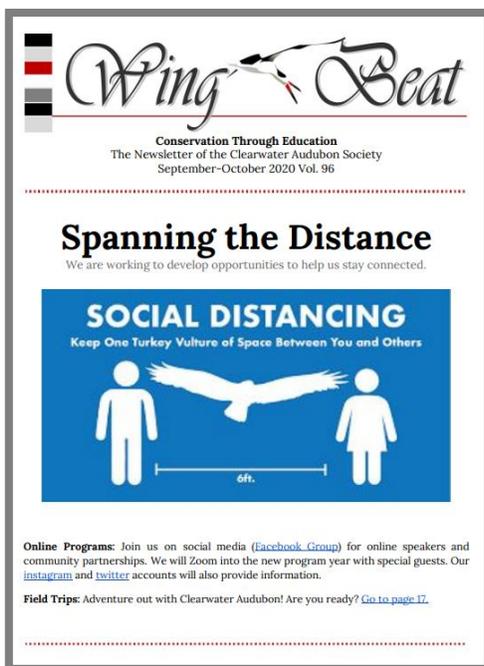
**Clearwater Audubon Society**  
<http://clearwateraudubonsociety.org/>  
Supporting our community since 1959 Our Motto: Conservation through Education  
For more information email us at [cas@clearwateraudubonsociety.org](mailto:cas@clearwateraudubonsociety.org)



We represent Audubon Society members in Northern Pinellas County and provide services to all who are interested: free local field trips with expert birders; inexpensive extended field trips within the US and to other locales, free monthly programs, volunteer & networking opportunities within the local conservation community; scholarships to local summer camps and speakers for a variety of classrooms and groups.

## Past Issue of Wing Beat

[click issue to view](#)



## Membership

[Membership Application](#)

## Monthly Meetings

October – May

The first Monday of each month at [Moccasin Lake Nature Park](#):

Meet and Greet @ 6:30PM

Public Program @ 7:00PM

(Unless otherwise noted)

## [Pinellas County Birding Checklist](#)

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT MEETING  
First Monday of the Month unless otherwise noted.



# CLEARWATER AUDUBON

*Conservation through Education*

## Board Positions Available

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According to our Constitution, elections for certain positions fall on even years. These elections usually occur at the end of our fiscal year which is March. However, due to the social distancing guidelines, we decided to postpone these elections until 2021. Of the even-year positions (President, Treasurer, Media, and Membership), the following positions are vacant. Please see the list of board and committee positions that are available and their descriptions in the following linked documents. If you are interested, please complete the interest form (online or print) so that we may begin the process of welcoming nominees.

### **Current Board positions available:**

- Community Science (new)
- Media (print, digital, and social)
- President (we are currently leading by Executive Council)
- Programs

### **Committee positions available:**

- Budget & Finance
- Community Science
- Conservation & Advocacy
- Education and Outreach
- Media
- Membership
- Programs

Board Invitation Letter: [Board Invitation-Clearwater Audubon](#) (includes descriptions of board positions and committees).

Board Interest Form: [CAS Board Interest Form](#) (includes an online option or print and mail back to us).

Board Expectations: [CAS Board Member Expectations](#)

### **Become a Member**

Membership in National Audubon also includes membership in Audubon of Florida and Clearwater Audubon.

In addition, you will receive the award-winning National Audubon magazine.

[JOIN NOW](#)

### **Renew your Membership**

You can save trees, time and money by renewing your membership online. It's fast and safe with a click of a button.

[RENEW](#)

If you don't feel comfortable paying online, either for joining or renewing, please make out a check for \$20.00 to:  
National Audubon, and send to: Clearwater Audubon Society, PO Box 97, Clearwater, FL 33757

## KIM BEGAY, CAS BOARD VP TAKING ACTION >>> Conservation & Advocacy

*Would you like to be an advocate for Conservation in our area? Contact Kim about how you can help.*

### ***A Great Egret Rescue***

***-Kim Begay***

I stopped by the Seminole Boat Ramp in Clearwater last week to check on the Pelicans there, to make sure none had hook and line. I was just about ready to leave when a lady came up to me and said a bird was trailing four + feet of fishing line and she wanted to know if I could help. I said, Sure! It was a Great Egret and it really needed to be snared, as it was flighted, and that's definitely the best way to capture one. I noticed an FWC officer there, so told her I would be attempting to snare the bird. She offered to help, so I said, Great! After putting out my snare, a Snowy Egret came over to where I was along the shore to get a small piece of the fish I was using to lure the Great Egret over... well, the Great Egret wasn't going to let the Snowy get fish and him not get any, so that helped get him closer to my snare.

I love it when the other birds help me bring the one I'm after closer to me! It didn't take long at all and I had him. **Officer Criswell** and myself worked on the Great Egret together and safely got the hook out and removed the line. We were able to release him on the spot. I let Officer Criswell do the release and snapped this photo just before she put him on the ground and he flew away. It was wonderful meeting a new to our area FWC officer and having her help in one of her first bird rescues here!



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMMING >>>

Have you been enjoying the Zoom Webinars?

Monthly Meetings are held on Zoom at 7pm on the first Monday of the month October-May until further notice. If you were unable to attend the live Zoom, they have been recorded and posted. Check the table below to view.

**WATCH YOUR INBOX AND SOCIALS FOR OUR DECEMBER PROGRAM INFO!**

### CAS Program Schedule

As part of our extensive community outreach programming, CAS hosts a series of educational events. With few exceptions, these meetings are free and open to the public. They are designed to educate, entertain or both, and to better acquaint our members and area residents with the species that we steward. We believe that diversity, equality and inclusion are essential to creating global citizens who celebrate the unique differences of all and understand that each person plays a critical role in our global society.

| MONTH    | SPEAKER                | DETAILS   |
|----------|------------------------|---|
| NOVEMBER | Gallus Q & Dale Goebel | <b>Glacier, Yellowstone &amp; the Grand Tetons</b><br>Join Gallus Quigley Jr. and Dale Goebel as they share their Glacier, Yellowstone & the Grand Tetons field trip.<br>Gallus C. Quigley Jr., Archaeopteryx Birding and Nature Tours hosted a field trip this summer and will share stories, photos and experiences from the trip.<br>Watch on <a href="#">Facebook Live</a> and on our <a href="#">YouTube</a> channel.  |
| OCTOBER  | Jim McGinity           | <b>Where O where Can the Songbirds Go? - Migratory Birds Along the West Coast of Florida</b><br>What challenges do migratory songbirds face on their biannual migrations north and south each year? Join us in a Zoom webinar to learn about migration from the perspective of one of our favorite groups of birds: warblers, tanagers and other Passerines. This program will review the findings of the 10 - year study of the migratory birds in Hammock Park, Dunedin, discuss the future of the project on Caladesi Island State Park and end with a visual and auditory "songbird quiz" to close out the program.<br>The webinar can be found on our Facebook page or on our YouTube channel. |

### **Webinars Around Audubon Florida**

Find a variety of Florida-centric topics covered in these webinars presented by or featuring Audubon Florida staff. → [READ MORE](#)

### **St. Petersburg Audubon Society**

**NOV 17**, 7 PM EST → [DERRICK THRASHER, PH.D : VARIEGATED FAIRYWRENS OF AUSTRALIA](#)

### **Suncoast Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society**

**NOV 18** AT 6:15 PM EST – 7:45 PM EST → [ALL ABOUT BUTTERFLIES](#)

### **Tampa Audubon Society**

**DEC 3** AT 5:15 PM EST → [TECH BIRDING](#)

## RECIPES FOR SUCCESS >>>

### HOMEMADE BIRD FOOD RECIPES

Most people put out a bird seed mix, which birds do appreciate. However, if you really want to impress your avian friends, here are a few recipes we recommend:

#### Suet

A simple suet recipe that is beloved by woodpeckers, nuthatches, chickadees, and many other backyard birds.

#### Jack Dudley's Woodpecker Pudding

A suet-peanut butter concoction that will drive all the wild birds, well, wild!

#### Fine-Feathered Entree

Packed with nuts and seeds, this mix is a feathered-friend favorite.

#### Junco Cornbread

This simple baked cornbread is quite literally for the birds—and boy, do they enjoy it!

#### Homemade Hummingbird Food

Come spring, don't forget the hummers! This simple recipe for hummingbird nectar consists of only sugar and water.



### BIRD-FEEDING ADVICE

What's most important is that you keep birds safe by keeping your bird feeders clean. Scrub out feeders with a 10 percent non-chlorinated bleach solution at least a few times a year, and certainly between seasons. Remove suet in hot weather because it will spoil quickly.

See the

[Wild Bird Food chart](#) for more information on what kinds of foods different types of birds eat. Also make sure you [choose a birdfeeder](#) that fits the bird species you wish to attract!

Plus, here's some advice for growing [plants with seeds to feed the birds](#) and [plants that attract hummingbirds](#).

SOURCE:

Parts of this article were first published in the 1984 Old Farmer's Almanac.

### ARE YOU THINKING AHEAD TO HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES?

#### **How to Make Birdseed Ornaments | Easy Birdseed Ornaments ...**

1. Add 1/2 cup cold water to a large bowl.
2. Pour the 2 packages of unflavoured gelatin on top of the water.
3. Add 1/2 cup boiling water to the gelatin mixture and stir until the gelatin is completely... (click above for more)

# Organizations We Support



Audubon of Florida



St. Petersburg Audubon Society



Important Bird Areas in Florida



Great Florida Birding Trail



Florida Ornithological Society



Friends Of Brooker Creek Preserve



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